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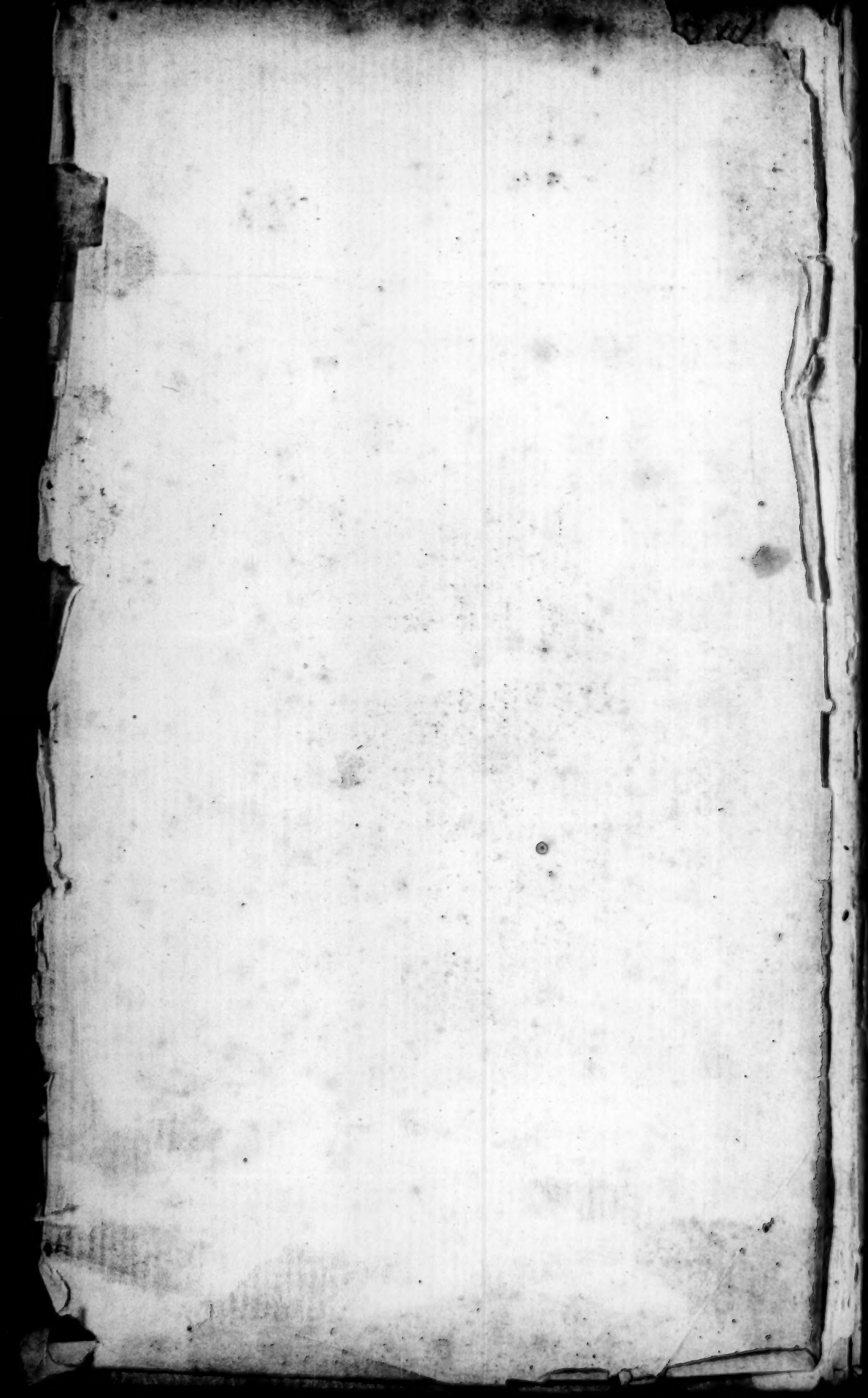
Everard Home R.N.

5 vols



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THE
ADVENTURES
OF
DAVID SIMPLE:

Containing
An ACCOUNT of his TRAVELS

Through the 12611 eel9
CITIES of LONDON and
WESTMINSTER,

In the Search of
A REAL FRIEND.

Sarah By a LADY. *Fielding*.
~~IN TWO~~ VOLUMES.

VOL. I.

THE SECOND EDITION,
Revised and Corrected.

With a PREFACE
By HENRY FIELDING Esq;

LONDON:

Printed for A. MILLAR, opposite *Katharine-*
Street, in the Strand.

M. DCC. XLIV.

THE
 ADVENTURES
 OF
 DAVID HARRISON
 Counting
 An Account of his Travels
 Through
 THE EAST
 A REAT FRIEND



IN THREE VOLUMES
 VOL. I
 THE SECOND EDITION
 WITH A PREFACE
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 LONDON:
 Printed by A. MILLAR, in Pall Mall.
 MDCCLXXII.



THE P R E F A C E.

AS so many worthy Persons have, I am told, ascribed the Honour of this Performance to me, they will not be surprized at seeing my Name to this Preface: Nor am I very insincere, when I call it an Honour; for if the Authors of the Age are amongst the Number of those who have conferred it on me, I know very few of them to whom I shall return the Compliment of such a Suspicion.

I could indeed have been very well content with the Reputation, well knowing that some Writings may be justly laid to my charge, of a Merit greatly inferior to that of the following Work; had not the Imputation directly accused me of Falshood, in breaking a Promise, which I have solemnly made in Print, of never publishing, even a Pamphlet, without setting my Name to it: A Promise I have always hitherto faithfully kept; and, for the sake of Men's Characters, I wish all other Writers were by Law obliged to use the same Method: but, 'till they are, I shall no longer impose any such Restraint on myself.

A second Reason which induces me to refute this Untruth, is, that it may have a Tendency to injure me in a Profession, to which I have applied with so arduous and intent a Diligence, that I have had no Leisure, if I had Inclination, to compose any thing of this kind. Indeed I am very far from entertaining such an Inclination; I know the Value of the Reward, which Fame confers on Authors, too well, to endeavour any longer to obtain it; nor was the World ever more unwilling to bestow the glorious, envied Prize of the Laurel or Bays, than I should now be to receive any such Garland or Fool's Cap. There is not, I believe, (and it is bold to affirm) a single Free Briton in this Kingdom, who hates his Wife more heartily than I detest the Muses. They have indeed behaved to me like the most infamous Harlots, and have laid many a spurious, as well as deformed Production at my Door: In all which, my good Friends the Critics have, in their profound Discernment, discovered some Resemblance of the Parent; and thus I have been reputed and reported the Author of half the Scurrility, Bawdy, Treason and Blasphemy, which these few last Years have produced.

*I am far from thinking every Person who hath thus aspersed me, had a determinate
Design*

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Design of doing me an Injury; I impute it only to an idle, childish Levity, which possesses too many Minds, and makes them report their Conjectures as Matters of Fact, without weighing the Proof, or considering the Consequence. But as to the former of these, my Readers will do well to examine their own Talents very strictly, before they are too thoroughly convinced of their Abilities to distinguish an Author's Style so accurately, as from that only to pronounce an anonymous Work to be his: And as to the latter, a little Reflection will convince them of the Cruelty they are guilty of by such Reports. For my own part, I can aver, that there are few Crimes, of which I should have been more ashamed, than of some Writings laid to my charge. I am as well assured of the Injuries I have suffered from such unjust Imputations, not only in general Character, but as they have, I conceive, frequently raised me inveterate Enemies, in Persons to whose Disadvantage I have never entertained a single Thought; nay, in Men whose Characters, and even Names have been unknown to me.

Among all the Scurrilities with which I have been accused, (tho' equally and totally innocent of every one) none ever raised my Indignation so much as the Causidicade:

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this accused me not only of being a bad Writer, and a bad Man, but with downright Idiotism, in flying in the Face of the greatest Men of my Profession. I take therefore this Opportunity to protest, that I never saw that infamous, poultry Libel, till long after it had been in Print; nor can any Man hold it in greater Contempt and Abhorrence than myself.

The Reader will pardon my dwelling so long on this Subject, as I have suffered so cruelly by these Aspersions in my own Ease, in my Reputation, and in my Interest. I shall however henceforth treat such Censure with the Contempt it deserves; and do here revoke the Promise I formerly made; so that I shall now look upon myself at full Liberty to publish an anonymous Work, without any Breach of Faith. For tho' probably I shall never make any use of this Liberty, there is no reason why I should be under a Restraint, for which I have not enjoyed the purposed Recompence.

A third, and indeed the strongest Reason which hath drawn me into Print, is to do Justice to the real and sole Author of this little Book, who, notwithstanding the many excellent Observations dispersed through it, and the deep Knowledge of Human Nature
it

The PREFACE. vii,

it discovers, is a young Woman; one so nearly and dearly allied to me, in the highest Friendship as well as Relation, that if she had wanted any Assistance of mine, I would have been as ready to have given it her, as I would have been just to my Word in owning it: but in reality, two or three Hints which arose on the reading it, and some little Direction as to the Conduct of the second Volume, much the greater Part of which I never saw till in Print, were all the Aid she received from me. Indeed I believe there are few Books in the World so absolutely the Author's own as this.

There were some Grammatical and other Errors in Style in the first Impression, which my Absence from Town prevented my correcting, as I have endeavoured, tho' in great Haste, in this Edition: By comparing the one with the other, the Reader may see, if he thinks it worth his while, the Share I have in this Book, as it now stands, and which amounts to little more than the Correction of some small Errors, which Want of Habit in Writing chiefly occasioned, and which no Man of Learning would think worth his Censure in a Romance; nor any Gentleman, in the Writings of a young Woman.

And as the Faults of this Work want very little Excuse, so its Beauties want as little Recommendation: tho' I will not say but they may sometimes stand in need of being pointed out to the generality of Readers. For as the Merit of this Work consists in a vast Penetration into human Nature, a deep and profound Discernment of all the Mazes, Windings and Labyrinths, which perplex the Heart of Man to such a degree, that he is himself often incapable of seeing through them; and as this is the greatest, noblest, and rarest of all the Talents which constitute a Genius; so a much larger Share of this Talent is necessary, even to recognize these Discoveries, when they are laid before us, than falls to the share of a common Reader. Such Beauties therefore in an Author must be contented to pass often unobserved and untasted; whereas, on the contrary, the Imperfections of this little Book, which arise, not from want of Genius, but of Learning, lie open to the Eyes of every Fool, who has had a little Latin inoculated into his Tail; but had the same great Quantity of Birch been better employ'd, in scourging away his Ill-nature, he would not have exposed it in endeavouring to cavil at the first Performance of one, whose Sex and Age entitle her to the gentlest Criticism,
while

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while her Merit, of an infinitely higher kind, may defy the severest. But I believe the Warmth of my Friendship hath led me to engage a Critic of my own Imagination only: for I should be sorry to conceive such a one had any real Existence. If however any such Composition of Folly, Meanness and Malevolence should actually exist, he must be as incapable of Conviction, as unworthy of an Answer. I shall therefore proceed to the more pleasing Task of pointing out some of the Beauties of this little Work.

I have attempted in my Preface to Joseph Andrews to prove, that every Work of this kind is in its Nature a comic Epic Poem, of which Homer left us a Precedent, tho' it be unhappily lost.

The two great Originals of a serious Air, which we have derived from that mighty Genius, differ principally in the Action, which in the Iliad is entire and uniform; in the Odyssey, is rather a Series of Actions, all tending to produce one great End. Virgil and Milton are, I think, the only pure Imitators of the former; most of the other Latin, as well as Italian, French, and English Epic Poets, chusing

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rather

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rather the History of some War, as Lucan and Silius Italicus; or a Series of Adventures, as Ariosto, &c. for the Subject of their Poems.

In the same manner the Comic Writer may either fix on one Action, as the Authors of Le Luitrin, the Dunciad, &c. or on a Series, as Butler in Verse, and Cervantes in Prose have done.

Of this latter kind is the Book now before us, where the Fable consists of a Series of separate Adventures detached from, and independent on each other, yet all tending to one great End; so that those who should object want of Unity of Action here, may, if they please, or if they dare, fly back with their Objection, in the Face even of the Odysey itself.

This Fable hath in it these three difficult Ingredients, which will be found on Consideration to be always necessary to Works of this kind, viz. that the main End or Scope be at once amiable, ridiculous and natural.

*If it be said, that some of the Comic Performances I have above mentioned differ in the first of these, and set before us the odious instead of the amiable; I answer,
that*

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that is far from being one of their Perfections; and of this the Authors themselves seem so sensible, that they endeavour to deceive their Reader by false Glosses and Colours, and by the help of Irony at least to represent the Aim and Design of their Heroes in a favourable and agreeable Light.

I might farther observe, that as the Incidents arising from this Fable, tho' often surprizing, are every where natural, (Credibility not being once shocked through the whole) so there is one Beauty very apparent, which hath been attributed by the greatest of Critics to the greatest of Poets, that every Episode bears a manifest Impression of the principal Design, and chiefly turns on the Perfection or Imperfection of Friendship; of which noble Passion, from its highest Purity to its lowest Falshoods and Disguises, this little Book is, in my Opinion, the most exact Model.

As to the Characters here described, I shall repeat the Saying of one of the greatest Men of this Age, That they are as wonderfully drawn by the Writer, as they were by Nature herself. There are many Strokes in Orgueil, Spatter, Varnish, Le-vif, the Balancer, and some others, which would have shined in the Pages of
Theo-

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Theophrastus, Horace, or La Bruyere. Nay, there are some Touches, which I will venture to say might have done honour to the Pencil of the immortal Shakespear himself.

The Sentiments are in general extremely delicate; those particularly which regard Friendship, are, I think, as noble and elevated as I have any where met with: Nor can I help remarking, that the Author hath been so careful, in justly adapting them to her Characters, that a very indifferent Reader, after he is in the least acquainted with the Character of the Speaker, can seldom fail of applying every Sentiment to the Person who utters it. Of this we have the strongest Instance in Cynthia and Camilla, where the lively Spirit of the former, and the gentle Softness of the latter, breathe through every Sentence which drops from either of them.

The Diction I shall say no more of, than as it is the last, and lowest Perfection in a Writer, and one which many of great Genius seem to have little regarded; so I must allow my Author to have the least Merit on this Head: Many Errors in Style existing in the first Edition, and some, I am convinced, remaining still uncured in this;
but

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but Experience and Habit will most certainly remove this Objection; for a good Style, as well as a good Hand in Writing, is chiefly learn'd by Practice.

I shall here finish these short Remarks on this little Book, which have been drawn from me by those People, who have very falsely and impertinently called me it's Author. I declare I have spoken no more than my real Sentiments of it, nor can I see why any Relation or Attachment to Merit, should restrain me from its Commendation.

The true Reason why some have been backward in giving this Book its just Praise, and why others have sought after some more known and experienced Author for it, is, I apprehend, no other than an Astonishment how one so young, and, in appearance, so unacquainted with the World, should know so much both of the better and worse Part, as is here exemplified: But, in reality, a very little Knowledge of the World will afford an Observer, moderately accurate, sufficient Instances of Evil; and a short Communication with her own Heart, will leave the Author of this Book very little to seek abroad of all the Good which is to be found in Human Nature.

HENRY FIELDING.

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THE



THE
ADVENTURES
OF
DAVID SIMPLE.

BOOK I.

*The Birth, Parentage, and Education
of Mr. DAVID SIMPLE.*

MR. *David Simple* was the eldest Son of Mr. *Daniel Simple*, a Mercer on *Ludgate-hill*. His Mother was a downright Country Woman, who originally got her Living by Plain-Work ; but being handsome, was liked by Mr. *Simple*. When, or where this Couple met, or what happened to them during their Courtship, is

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foreign to my present Purpose, nor do I really know. But they were married, and lived many Years together, a very honest and industrious Life; to which it was owing, that they were able to provide very well for their Children. They had only two Sons, *David* and *Daniel*, who, as soon as capable of learning, were sent to a publick School, and kept there in a manner which put them on a level with Boys of a superior Degree, and they were respected equally with those born in the highest Station. This indeed their Behaviour demanded; for there never appeared any thing mean in their Actions, and Nature had given them Parts enough to converse with the most ingenious of their School-fellows. The strict Friendship they kept up was remarked by the whole School; whoever affronted the one, made an Enemy of the other; and while there was any Money in either of their Pockets, the other was sure never to want it: the Notion of whose Property it was, being the last thing that ever entered into their Heads. The eldest, who was of a sober prudent Disposition, had always enough to supply his Brother, who was much more profuse in his Expences; and I have often heard him say, (for this History is all

all taken from his own Mouth) that one of the greatest Pleasures he ever had in his Life, was in the Reflections he used to make at that time, that he was able to supply and assist his dear Brother; and whenever he saw him but look as if he wanted any thing, he would immediately bring out all the Money he had, and desire him to take whatever he had occasion for. On the other hand, *Daniel* was in some respects useful to him, for altho' he had not half the real Understanding, or Parts, yet he was what the World calls a much sharper Boy; that is, he had more Cunning, and consequently being more suspicious, would often keep his Brother from being imposed on; who, as he was too young to have gained much Experience, and never had any ill Designs on others, never thought of their having any upon him. He paid a perfect Deference to his Brother's Wisdom, from finding, that whenever he marked out a Boy as one that would behave ill, it always proved so in the end. He was sometimes indeed quite amazed how *Daniel* came by so much Knowledge; but then his great Love and Partiality to him easily made him impute it to his uncommon Sagacity; and he often pleased him-

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self with the Thoughts of having such a
Brother.

Thus these two Brothers lived together at School in the most perfect Unity and Friendship, till the eldest was Seventeen; at which time they were sent for from School, on their Father's being seized with a violent Fever. He recovered of that Distemper, but it weakened him so much, that he fell into a Consumption, in which he lingered a Twelve-month, and then died. The Loss of so good a Father was sensibly felt by the tender-hearted *David*; he was in the utmost Affliction, till by Philosophical Considerations, assisted by a natural Calmness he had in his own Temper, he was enabled to overcome his Grief, and began again to enjoy his former Serenity of Mind. His Brother, who was of a much gayer Disposition, soon recovered his Spirits; and the two Brothers seemed to be getting into their former State of Happiness, when it was interrupted by the Discovery of something in *Daniel's* Mind, which to his fond Brother had never appeared there before; and which, whoever thinks proper to read the next Chapter, may know.

C H A P.



CH A P. II.

In which are seen the terrible Consequences which attend Envy and Selfishness.

IT will perhaps surprize the Reader as much as it did poor *David*, to find that *Daniel*, notwithstanding the Appearance of Friendship he had all along kept up with his Brother, was in reality one of those Wretches, whose only Happiness centers in themselves; and that his Conversation with his Companions had never any other View, but in some shape or other to promote his own Interest. To this was owing his Endeavour to keep *David* from being imposed on, lest his Generosity should lead him to let others share his Money as well as himself: From this alone arose his Character of Wisdom; for he could easily find out an ill-disposed Mind in another, by comparing it with what passed in his own Bosom. While he found it for his Benefit to pretend to the same delicate Way of Thinking, and sincere Love which *David* had for him, he

did not want Art enough to affect it ; but as soon as he thought it his Interest to break with his Brother, he threw off the Mask, and took no pains to conceal the Baseness of his Heart.

FROM the time they came from School, during the old Gentleman's Illness, *Daniel's* only Study was, how he should throw his Brother out of his Share of his Father's Patrimony, and engross it wholly to himself. The anxious Thoughts he appeared continually in, on this account, were imputed by his good natured Friend, to a tender Concern for a Parent's Suffering ; a Consideration which much increased his Love for him. His Mother had a Maid, whom Mr. *Daniel* had a great fancy for ; but she being a virtuous Woman, (and besides, having a Sweet-heart in her Fellow-servant, whom she liked much better) resisted all his Sollicitations, and would have nothing to say to him. But yet he found she could not refuse any little Presents he made her ; which convinced him she was very mercenary, and made him think of a Scheme to make her serve his Designs of another kind, since she would not be subservient to his Pleasures. He knew his Father had
given

Chap. 2. of DAVID SIMPLE. 7

given a sealed Paper to his Brother, which he told him was his Will, with strict Orders not to open it till after his Death; and, as he was not ignorant where *David* had put it, he formed a Scheme to steal away the real Will, and to put a forged one in its place. But then he was greatly puzzled what he should do for Witnesses, which, as he had sily pumped out of an ingenious young Gentleman, his Acquaintance, who was Clerk to an Attorney, were necessary to the signing a Will. He therefore thought, if he could bribe this Girl and her Sweet-heart for this Purpose, he should accomplish all he desired; for, as the same learned Lawyer had told him, two Witnesses were sufficient, where the Estate was only personal, as that of his Father's was. This young Woman was one of those sort of People who had been bred up to get her Living by hard Work; she had been taught never to keep company with any Man, but him she intended to marry; nor to get drunk, or steal: for if she gave way to those things, (besides that they were great Sins) she would certainly come to be hanged; which, as she had an utter Aversion to, she went on in an honest way, and never intended to depart from it.

OUR Spark, when first he thought of making use of her, was very much afraid, lest she should refuse, and betray him. But when he reflected, how impossible it would be for him to refuse any thing he thought valuable, tho' he was to be guilty of ever so much Treachery to obtain it, he resolved boldly to venture on the Trial. When he first spoke to her about it, he offered her fifty Pounds; but she was so frighten'd at the Thoughts of being accessory to a Forgery, that she declared, " she would not do it for the whole
" World; for that she had more Value
" for her precious Soul, than for any
" thing he could give her: That as to
" him, he was a Schollard, and might
" think of some way of saving himself;
" but as she could neither write nor read,
" she must surely be d——'d." This way of talking so thoroughly convinced *Daniel* of her Folly, that he made no doubt of soon gaining her to his Purpose. He therefore made use of all the most persuasive Arguments he could think of: And amongst the rest, he told her, that by this means she might marry the Man she liked, and live with him in a very comfortable manner. He immediately perceived

Chap. 2: of DAVID SIMPLE. 9

ceived this staggered all her Resolutions; and as soon as he saw she could be moved, did not fear succeeding. He pulled out of his Pocket a Purse with a hundred Guineas, and told them out before her, (for the Sight of Money is much more prevalent than the Idea of it) and assured her, that he would be better than he had promised her; for if she would comply with his Request, the whole Sum she had seen should be her's, and that she and her Lover by this means would be enabled to live in a manner much above all the Maids she used to converse with. The Thoughts of being set above her Acquaintance quite overcame her; and, as she had never been Mistress of above forty Shillings at a time, a hundred Guineas appeared such an immense Sum, that she easily conceived she could live very well, without being obliged to work any more. This Prospect so charmed her, that she promised to do whatever he would have her: She did not doubt but she could make her Sweet-heart comply, for he had never refused her any thing since their Acquaintance began. This made *Daniel* quite happy, for every thing else was plain before him. He had no Scruple on the Fellow's account; for once get the

Consent of a Woman, and that of a Man (who is vulgarly called, in love with her) consequently follows. For though a Man's Disposition is not naturally bad, yet it is not quite certain he will have Resolution enough to resist a Woman's continual Importunities.

DANIEL took the first Opportunity (which quickly offered, every thing being common between him and his Brother) of stealing the Will. As it was in his Father's Hand, he could easily forge it, for he wrote very like him; when he had done this, he had it witnessed in Form, placed it in the room of the other, and then went away quite satisfied in the Success of his Scheme.

THE real Affliction of *David*, on the old Gentleman's Death, prevented his immediate thinking of the Will. And *Daniel* was forced to counterfeit what he did not feel, not daring to be eager for the opening it, lest when the Contents were known, the Truth should be suspected. But as soon as the first Grief was a little abated, and the Family began to be calmed, *David* desired his Mother and Brother to walk up stairs; then went

Chap. 2. of DAVID SIMPLE. II

to his Bureau, and took out the Will, and read it before them. The Contents were as follows : *Daniel* was left sole Executor ; that out of 11000 *l.* which was the Sum left, he should pay his Mother 60 *l.* *per Annum*, and that *David* should have 500 *l.* for his Fortune. They all stood speechless for some time, staring at each other. At last *David* broke silence, and embracing *Daniel*, said, I hope my dear Brother will not impute my Amazement to any Concern I have, that he has so much the largest Share of my Father's Fortune. No, I do assure you, the only Cause of my Uneasiness is fearing I have done any thing to disoblige my Father, who always behaved with so much Good-nature to me, and made us both so equal in his Care and Love, that I think he must have had some Reason for this last Action, of leaving me so small a matter, especially as I am the eldest.

HERE *Daniel* interrupted him, and began to swear and bluster. He said, that his Father must have been told some wicked Lyes of his Brother, and he was resolved to find out the vile Incendiary. But *David* begged him to be pacified, and assured him he thought of it without

B. 6. Concern;

Concern ; for he knew him too well, to suspect any Alteration in his Behaviour, and did not doubt but every thing would be in common amongst them as usual : nay, so tenderly and affectionately did he love *Daniel*, that he reflected with pleasure how extremely happy his Life must be in continually sharing with his best Friend the Fortune his Father had left him. Thus would he have acted, and his honest Heart never doubted but that his Brother's Mind was like his own. *Daniel* answered him with Assurances of his always commanding every thing equally with himself. The good old Woman blessed herself for having two such Sons, and they all went down stairs in very good Humour.

DANIEL had two Reasons for allotting his Mother something ; one was, that nothing but a Jointure could have barr'd her coming in for Thirds ; the other was, that if no notice had been taken of her in the Will, it might have been a strong Motive for Suspicion : Not that he had any great Reason for Caution, as nothing less than seeing him do it could have made *David* (such a Confidence had he in him)

him) even suspect he could be guilty of such an Action.

THE Man and Maid were soon married; and as they had long lived in the Family, *David* gave them something to set up with. This was thought very lucky by the Brother, as it might prevent any Suspicions how they came by Money. Thus every thing succeeded to *Daniel's* Mind, and he had compassed all his Designs without any Fear of a Discovery.

THE two Brothers agreed on leaving off their Father's Business, as they had enough to keep them; and as their Acquaintance lay chiefly in that Neighbourhood, they took a little House there. The old Gentlewoman, whose ill Health would not suffer her to live in *London*, retired into the Country, and lived with her Sister.

DAVID was very happy in the Proofs he thought he had of his Brother's Love; and as it was his Nature to be easily contented, he gave very little Trouble or Expence to the Family. *Daniel* hugg'd himself in his Ingenuity, and in the Thoughts how impossible it would have been

been for him to have been so imposed on. His Pride (of which he had no small Share) was greatly gratified in thinking his Brother was a Dependant on him; but then he was resolved it should not be long before he felt that Dependance, for otherwise the greatest part of his Pleasure must be lost. One thing quite stung him to the quick, *viz.* That *David's* amiable Behaviour, joined to a very good Understanding, with a great Knowledge which he had attained by Books, made all their Acquaintance give him the preference: and as Envy was very predominant in *Daniel's* Mind, this made him take an utter Aversion to his Brother, which all the other's Goodness could not get the better of: for as his Actions were such as he could not but approve, they were still greater Food for his Hatred; and the Reflection that others approved them also, was what he could not bear. The first thing in which *David* discovered an Alteration in his Brother, was in the Behaviour of the Servants; for as they are always very inquisitive, they soon found out by some means or other, that *Daniel* was in possession of all the Money, and was not obliged to let his Brother share it with him. They watched their Master's Motions,

tions, and as soon as they found that slackening in their Respect to *David* would not be displeasing to the other, it may easily be believed, they were not long in doubt whether they should follow their own Interest: so that at last, when *David* called them, they were always going to do something for their Master; "truly, while he wanted them, they could not wait on any body else." *Daniel* took notice of their Behaviour, and was inwardly pleased at it. *David* knew not what to make of it, he would not mention it to his Brother, till it grew to such a height he could bear it no longer: and when he spoke of it to *Daniel*, it was only by way of consulting with him how to turn them away. But how great was his Surprise, when *Daniel*, instead of talking in his usual Style, said, that for his part he saw no Fault in any of *his* Servants; that they did their Duty very well, and that he should not part with his own Conveniences for any body's Whims; if he accused any of them of a Fault, he would call them up, and try if they could not justify themselves. *David* was at first struck dumb with Amazement; he thought he was not awake, that it was impossible it could be his Brother's Voice

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which

which uttered those Words : but at last he recollected himself enough to say, What is it come to this ? Am I brought to a Trial with *your* Servants, (as you are pleased to call them ?) I thought we had lived on different Terms. Oh ! recall those Words, and don't provoke me to say what perhaps I shall afterwards repent. *Daniel* knew, that although his Brother was far from being passionate for Trifles, yet that his whole Frame would be so shaken from any ill Usage from him, he would not be able to command himself : He resolved therefore to take this Opportunity of aggravating his Passion, till it was raised to an height, which to the unthinking World would make him appear in the wrong ; he therefore very calmly answered, You may do as you please, Brother ; but what you utter, appears to me to be quite Madness, I don't perceive but you are used in *my* House as well as I am myself, and cannot guess what you complain of. If you are not contented, you best know how to find a Remedy ; many a Brother in your Case, I believe, would think themselves very happy, to meet with the Usage you have, without wanting to make mischief in Families. This had the desired Effect, and threw

David

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David into that inconsistent Behaviour, which must always be produced in a Mind torn at once by Tendernefs and Rage. That sincere Love and Friendship he had always felt for his Brother, made his Resentment the higher, and he alternately fired into Reproaches, and melted into Softness; till at last, he swore he would go out of the House, and never more visit the Place, which was in the possession of so unnatural a Wretch.

DANIEL had now all he wanted; from the Moment the other's Passion grew loud, he had set open the Door, that the Servants might hear how he used him, and be Witneffes he was not in fault. He behaved with the utmost Calmness, which was very easy for him to do, as he felt nothing. He said, his Brother should be always welcome to live in his House, provided he could be quiet, and contented with what was reasonable; and not be so mad as to think, while he insisted only on the Management of his own Family, he departed from that romantic Love he so often talked of. Indeed, it must be confessed, that if *David* would have been satisfied to have lived in his Brother's House, in a State of Dependency; to have walked about in a rusty Coat,

Coat, and an old Tye-Wig, like a decayed Gentleman, thinking it a Favour to have Bread, while every Visitor at the House, should be extolling the Goodness of his Brother for keeping him: I say, could he have been contented with this sort of Behaviour, he might have stayed there as long as he pleased. But *Daniel* was resolved he should not be on a Level with him, who had taken so much pains to get a superiour Fortune: he therefore behaved in this manner, with design either to get rid of him, or make him submit to his Terms. This latter it was impossible ever to accomplish: For *David's* Pride would not have prevented his taking that Usage from a Stranger, but his Love could by no means suffer him to bear it from his Brother. Therefore, as soon as the Variety of Passions he struggled with, would give him leave, he told him, That since he was so very different from what he had always thought him, and capable of what he esteemed the greatest Villainy, he would sooner starve than have any thing more to say to him. On which he left him, and went up to his own Chamber with a fixed Resolution to leave the House that very Day, and never return to it any more.

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IT would be impossible to describe what he felt when he was alone; all the Scenes of Pleasure he had ever enjoyed in his Brother's Company, rushed at once into his Memory; and when he reflected on what had just happened, he could not account for such a Difference in one Man's Conduct. He was sometimes ready to blame himself, and thought he must have been guilty of something in his Passion, (for he hardly remembered what he had said) to provoke his Brother to such a Behaviour: he was then going to seek him, to be reconciled to him. But when he considered the Beginning of the Quarrel, and what *Daniel* had said to him concerning the Servants, he concluded he must be tired of his Company, and from some Motive or other had altered his Affection. Then several little Sights came into his head, which he had overlooked at the time of their happening; and from all these Reflections, he concluded he could have no farther Hopes from his Brother. However, he resolved to stay in his Room till the Evening, to see if there yet remained Tenderneſs enough in *Daniel* to induce him to endeavour the removing his present Torment. What he felt during that Interval, is not to be expressed

pressed or understood, but by the few who are capable of real Tenderness; every Moment seemed an Age. Sometimes in the Confusion of his Thoughts, the Joy of being again well with his Brother, appeared so strong to his Imagination, he could hardly refrain going to him; but when he found it grew late, and no Notice was taken of him, not even so much as a Summons to Dinner, he was then certain any Condescension on his side would only expose him to be again insulted; he therefore resolved to stay there no longer.

WHEN he went down stairs, he asked where his Brother was, and was told, he went out to Dinner with Mr. ———, and had not been at home since. He was so struck with the Thought that *Daniel* could have so little Concern for him, as to go into Company and leave him in such Misery, he had hardly Strength enough left to go any farther; however, he got out of the House as fast as he was able, without considering whether he was going, or what he should do, (for his Mind was so taken up, and tortured with his Brother's Brutality, that all other Thoughts quite forsook him.) He wandered

wandered up and down till he was quite weary and faint, not knowing whither to direct his Steps. When he first set out, he had but half a Crown in his Pocket, a Shilling of which he gave away in his Walk to a Beggar, who told him a Story of having been turned out of doors by an unnatural Brother; so that now he had but one Shilling and Sixpence left, with which he went into a publick House, and got something to recruit his worn-out Spirits. In his Situation, any thing that would barely support Nature, was equal to the greatest Dainties; for his Mind was in so much anxiety, it was impossible for him to spend one Thought on any thing but the Cause of his Grief. So true is that Observation of *Shakespear's*, "When the Mind is free, the Body is delicate;" that those People know very little of real Misery (however the Sorrow for their own Sufferings may make them imagine no one ever endured the like) who can be very solicitous of what becomes of them. But this was far from being our Hero's Case, for when he found himself too weak to travel farther, he was obliged to go into a publick House; for being far from home, and an utter Stranger, no private

private House would have admitted him: As soon as he got into a Room, he threw himself into a Chair, and could scarce speak. The Landlord asked him, what he would please to drink; but he not knowing what he said, made answer, he did not chuse any thing. Upon which he was answered in a surly manner, "if he did not care for drinking, he could have no great Business there," and would be very welcome to walk out again. This Treatment just rouzed him enough, to make him recollect where he was, and that he must call for something; therefore he ordered a Pint of Beer to be brought, which he immediately drank off, for he was very dry, tho' his Grievs were so fixed in his Mind, he could not feel even Hunger or Thirst. But Nature must be refreshed by proper Nourishment, and he found himself now not so faint, and seemed inclined to sleep; he therefore inquired for a Bed; which his kind Landlord (on his producing Money enough to pay for it) immediately procured for him; and being perfectly overcome with Fatigue and Trouble, he insensibly sunk to Rest.

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IN the Morning when he waked, all the Transactions of the preceding Day came fresh into his Mind ; he knew not which way to turn himself, but lay in the greatest Perplexity for some time : At last, it came into his head he had an Uncle, who when he was a Boy used to be very kind to him ; he therefore had some hopes he would receive and take care of him. He got up, and walked as well as he was able to his Uncle's House. The good old Man was quite frighten'd at the sight of him ; for the one Day's extreme Misery he had suffered, had altered him, as much as if he had been ill a Twelvemonth. His Uncle begged to know what was the matter with him ; but he would give him no other Answer, but that his Brother and he had had a few Words, for he would not complain ; and he desired he would be so kind to let him stay with him a little while, till Matters could be brought about again. His Uncle told him, he should be very welcome. And there for some time I will leave him to his own private Sufferings, *lest it should be thought I am so ignorant of the World, as not to know the proper Time of forsaking People.*

C H A P.



CHAP. III.

In which is seen the Possibility of a married Couple's leading an uneasy Life.

MUTUAL Fondness, and the Desire of marrying with each other, had prevailed with the two Servants, who were the Cause of poor *David's* Misfortunes, and the Engines of *Daniel's* Treachery, to consent to an Action which they themselves feared they should be d—n'd for; but this fond Couple had not long been joined together in the State of Matrimony, before *John* found out, that *Peggy* had not all those Perfections he once imagined her possessed of; and her Merit decreased every day more and more in his Eyes. However, while the Money lasted, (which was not very long, for they were not at all scrupulous of using it, thinking such great Riches were in no danger of being brought to an end) between Upbraidings, Quarrels, Reconciliations, kissing and falling out, they made a shift

shift to jumble on together, without coming to an open Rupture. But the Money was no sooner gone, than they grew out of all Patience. When *John* began to feel Poverty coming upon him, and found all he had got by his Villainy was a *Wife*, whom he now was heartily weary of, his Conscience flew in his face, and would not let him rest. All the Comfort he had left was in abusing *Peggy*: He said she had betrayed him, and he should have been always honest, had it not been for her wheedling. She, on the other hand, justified herself, by alledging, nothing but her Love for him could have drawn her into it: And if he thought it so great a Crime, *as he was a Man, and knew better than her, he should not have consented, or suffered her to do it.* For tho' I dare say this Girl had never read *Milton*, yet she could act the Part of throwing the blame on her Husband, as well as if she had learned it by heart. In short, from Morning till Night, they did nothing but quarrel; and there passed many curious Dialogues between them, which I shall not here repeat: for, as I hope to be read by the polite World, I would avoid every thing, of which they can *have no Idea.*

I shall therefore only say in general, that between the Stings of their Consciences, the Distresses from Poverty, *John's* Coldness and Neglect; nay, his liking other Women better than his Wife, *which no virtuous Woman can possibly bear*; and *Peggy's* Uneasiness and Jealousy; this Couple led a Life very little to be envied. But this could not last long, for when they found it was impossible for them to subsist any longer without working, they resolved to go into separate Services: for they were now as eager to part, as they had formerly been to come together.

THEY were forming this Resolution, when they heard Mr. *David* was gone from his Brother's House on a violent Quarrel. This Separation had made a general Discourse, and People said, *it was no wonder, for it was impossible any body could live in the House with him; for he was of such a Temper, that he fell out with his Brother, for no other reason than because he would not turn away all his Servants to gratify his Humours. For altho' Mr. Daniel had all the Money, yet he was so good to keep him; and sure, when People are kept upon Charity, they need not be so proud, but be glad to be con-*
tented,

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tented, without setting a Gentleman against his Servants. The old Gentleman his Father knew what he was, or he would have left him more.

WHEN *John* heard all this, he was struck with Amazement, and the Wickedness he had been guilty of appeared in so horrible a light, that he was almost mad. At first he thought he would find Mr. *David* out, and confess the whole Truth: They had lived in the same House a great while, and *John* knew him to be so mild and gentle, that he flatter'd himself he might possibly obtain his Forgiveness: but then the fear of Shame worked so violently, that he despaired of mustering sufficient Spirits to go through the Story. The Struggle in his Mind was so great, he could not fix on what to determine; but the same Person who had drawn him into this piece of Villainy, occasioned at last the Discovery: For his Wife intreated him, with all the Arguments she could think of, not to be hanged voluntarily, when there was no necessity for it; for altho' the Action they had done was not right, yet, thank God, they had not been guilty of *Murder*. Indeed if that had been the case, there

would have been a reason for confessing it; because it could not have been concealed, for *Murder will out; the very Birds of the Air will tell of that*: but as they were in no danger of being found out, it would be madness to run their Necks into a Halter.

JOHN, who was ruined by his Compliance with this Woman while he liked her, since he was weary of, and hated her, took hold of every Opportunity to contradict her. Therefore her Eagerness to keep their Crime a Secret, join'd to his own Remorse, determined him to let Mr. *David* know it. However, he dissembled with her for the present, lest he should take any steps to obstruct his Designs.

He immediately began to enquire where Mr. *David* was gone; and when he was informed he was at his Uncle's, he went thither, and asked for him: but a Servant told him Mr. *David* was indeed there, but so ill he could not be spoke with. However, if the Business was of great Consequence, he would call his Master; but disclosing it to himself would do as well. *John* answered, what he had to say could be communicated to nobody but to Mr. *David*

David himself. He was so very importunate to see him, that at last, by the Uncle's Consent, he was admitted into his Chamber. When the Fellow came near poor *David*, and observed that wan and meagre Countenance, which the great Agitation of his Mind (together with a Fever, which he had been in ever since he came to his Uncle's) had caused, he was so shocked for some time, that he could not speak. At last, he fell on his knees, and imploring Pardon, told him the whole Story of his forging the Will, not omitting any one Circumstance. The great Weakness of *David's* Body, with this fresh Astonishment and strong Conviction of his Brother's Villainy, quite overcame him, and he fainted away; but as soon as his Spirits were a little revived, he sent for his Uncle, and told him what *John* had just related. He asked him what was to be done, and in what manner they could proceed; for that he would on no account bring publick Infamy on his Brother. His Uncle told him, he could do nothing in his present Condition; but desired him to compose himself, and have a regard to his Health, and that he would take care of the whole Affair, adding a promise to manage every thing in the quietest manner possible.

THEN the good-natured Man took *John* into another Room, examined him closely; and assured him, if he would act as he would have him, he would make Interest that he should be forgiven; but that he must prevail with his Wife to join her Evidence with his. *John* said, "if he pleased to go with him, he thought the best method to deal with her, was to frighten her to it." On which the old Gentleman sent for an Attorney, and carried one of his own Servants for a Constable, in order to make her comply with as little noise as such an Affair could admit of. They then set out for *John's* House, when *David's* Uncle told the Woman, "if she would confess the truth, she should be forgiven; but if she resolved to persist, he had brought a Constable to take her up, and she would surely be hanged on her Husband's Evidence." The Wench was so terrified, she fell a crying, and told all she knew of the matter. The Attorney then took both their Depositions in Form; after which, *John* and his Wife went home with Mr. *David's* Uncle, and were to stay there till the Affair was finished.

THE poor young Man, with this fresh Disturbance of his Mind, was grown worse

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worse, and thought to be in danger of losing his Life ; but by the great Care of the old Gentleman he soon recovered. The Uncle's next Design was to go to *Daniel*, and endeavour by all means to bring him to reasonable Terms, and to prevail on him to submit himself to his Brother's Discretion. *Daniel*, at first, blustered and swore, it was a Calumny, and that he would prosecute the Fellow and Wench for Perjury : And then left the Room, with a *Haughtiness that generally attends that High-mindedness*, which is capable of being detected in Guilt. He tried all methods possible to get *John* and his Wife out of his Uncle's House, in order to bribe them a second time ; but that Scheme could not succeed. He then used every Endeavour to procure false Evidence ; but when the time of Trial approached, his Uncle went once more to to him, and talked seriously to him, on the Consequences of being convicted in a Court of Justice of Forgery, especially of that heinous sort : Assuring him he had the strongest Evidence, joined to the greatest Probability of the Falseness of his Father's Will. After he had discoursed with him some time, and *Daniel* began to find the Impossibility of defending himself, he fell from one Extreme to another,

(for a Mind capable of Treachery, is most times very pufillanimous) and his Pride now thought fit to condescend to the most abject Submissions; he begged he might see his Brother, and ask his Pardon; and said, he would live with him as a Servant for the future, if he would but forgive him. His Uncle told him, he could by no means admit of his seeing *David* as yet, for he was still too weak to be disturbed; but if he would resign all that was left of his Father's Fortune, and leave himself at his Brother's mercy, he would venture to promise that he should not be prosecuted. *Daniel* was very unwilling to part with his Money, but finding there was no Remedy, he at last consented.

HIS Uncle would not leave him till he had got every thing out of his hands, lest he should embezzle any of it; there was not above eight thousand Pounds out of the eleven left by his Father, for he had rioted away the rest with Women and Sots.

WHEN every thing was secured, the old Gentleman told *David* what he had done, who highly approved every Step he had taken, and was full of Gratitude for his Goodness to him. And
now

now in appearance all *David's* Troubles were over, and indeed he had nothing to make him uneasy, but the reflecting on his Brother's Actions; these were continually before his Eyes, and tormented him in such a manner, it was some time before he could recover his Strength. However, he resolved to settle on *Daniel* an Annuity for Life to keep him from Want, and if he should ever by his Extravagance fall into Distress, to relieve him, tho' he should not know from whom it came; but he thought it better not to see him again, for he dared not venture that Trial.

DAVID desired his Uncle would let him live with him, that he might take care of him in his old Age; and make as much Return as possible for his generous, good-natured Treatment of him, in his Distress. This Request was easily granted; his Company being the greatest Pleasure the old Man could enjoy.

DAVID now resolved to live an easy Life, without entering into any more Engagements of either Friendship or Love; but to spend his time in reading and calm Amusements, not flattering himself with any great Pleasures, and

consequently, not being liable to any great Disappointments. This manner of Life was soon interrupted again by his Uncle's being taken violently ill of a Fever, which carried him off in ten Day's time. This was a fresh Disturbance to the Ease he had proposed; for *David* had so much Tenderness, he could not possibly part with so good a Friend, without being moved: tho' he soothed his Concern as much as possible, with the Consideration that he was arrived to an Age, wherein to breathe was all could be expected, and that Diseases and Pains must have filled up the rest of his Life. At last, he began to reflect, even with pleasure, that the Man whom he had so much reason to esteem and value, had escaped the most miserable part of a human Life: For hitherto, the old Man had enjoyed good Health; and he was one of those sort of Men who had good Principles, designed well, and did all the good in his power: but at the same time, was void of those Delicacies, and strong Sensations of the Mind, which constitute both the Happiness and Misery of those who are possessed of them. He left no Children; for tho' he was married young, his Wife died within half a Year of the Small Pox.

Pox. She brought him a very good Fortune; and by his Frugality and Care, he died worth upwards of ten thousand Pounds, which he gave to his Nephew *David*, some few Legacies to old Servants excepted.

WHEN *David* saw himself in the possession of a very easy comfortable Fortune, instead of being overjoyed, as is usual on such occasions, he was at first the more unhappy; the Consideration of the Pleasure he should have had to share this Fortune with his Brother, continually brought to his Remembrance his cruel Usage, which made him feel all his old Troubles over again. He had no Ambition, nor any Delight in Grandeur. The only Use he had for Money, was to serve his Friends; but when he reflected how difficult it was to meet with a Person who deserved that Name, and how hard it would be for him ever to believe any one sincere, having been so much deceived, he thought nothing in Life could be any great Good to him again. He spent whole Days in thinking on this Subject, wishing he could meet with a human Creature capable of Friendship; by which Word he meant so perfect a Union

of Minds, that each should consider himself but as a Part of one entire Being; a little Community, as it were of two, to the Happiness of which all the Actions of both should tend with an absolute disregard of any selfish or separate Interest.

THIS was the Fantom, the Idol of his Soul's Admiration. In the Worship of which he at length grew such an Enthusiast, that he was in this Point only as mad as *Quixotte* himself could be with Knight Errantry; and after much amusing himself with the deepest Ruminations on this Subject, in which a fertile Imagination raised a thousand pleasing Images to itself, he at length took the oddest, most unaccountable Resolution that ever was heard of, *viz.* To travel through the whole World, rather than not meet with a real Friend.

FROM the time he lived with his Brother, he had led so recluse a Life, that he in a manner had shut himself up from the World; but yet when he reflected that the Customs and Manners of Nations, relate chiefly to Ceremonies, and have nothing to do with the Hearts of Men; he concluded,
he

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he could sooner enter into the Characters of Men in the great Metropolis where he liv'd, than if he went into foreign Countries; where, not understanding the Languages so readily, it would be more difficult to find out the Sentiments of others, which was all he wanted to know. He resolv'd therefore to take a Journey through *London*; not as some Travellers do, to see the Buildings, the Streets, to know the Distances from one Place to another, with many more Sights of equal Use and Improvement; but his design was to seek out one capable of being a real Friend, and to assist all those who had been thrown into Misfortunes by the ill Usage of others.

HE had good Sense enough to know, that Mankind in their Natures are much the same every where; and that if he could go through one great Town, and not meet with a generous Mind, it would be in vain to seek farther. In this Project, he intended not to spend a Farthing more than was necessary; designing to keep all his Money to share with his Friend, if he should be so fortunate to find any Man worthy to be called by that Name.

C H A P.



C H A P. IV.

The first setting out of Mr. David Simple on his Journey; with some very remarkable and uncommon Accidents.

THE first Thought which naturally occurs to a Man, who is going in search of any thing, is, which is the most likely Method of finding it. Our Hero, therefore, began to consider seriously amongst all the Classes and Degrees of Men, where he might most probably meet with a real Friend. But when he examined Mankind, from the highest to the lowest, he was convinced, that to Experience alone he must owe his Knowledge; for that no Circumstance of Time, Place, or Station, made a Man absolutely either good or bad, but the Disposition of his own Mind; and that Good-nature and Generosity were always the same, tho' the Power to exert those Qualities are more or less, according to the Variation of outward Circumstances. He resolved therefore,

therefore, to go into all publick Assemblies, and to be intimate in as many private Families as possible, and to observe their Manner of living with each other ; by which means, he thought he should judge of their Principles and Inclinations.

As there required but small preparation for his Journey, a Staff, and a little Money in his Pocket, being all that was necessary, he set out without any farther Consideration. The first place he went into, was the *Royal-Exchange*. He had been there before, to see the Building and hear the Jargon at the time of high Change ; but now his Curiosity was quite of a different kind. He could not have gone any where to have seen a more melancholy Prospect, or with more likelihood of being disappointed of his Design, than where Men of all Ages and all Nations were assembled, with no other View than to barter for Interest. The Countenances of most of the People, showed they were filled with Anxiety : Some indeed appeared pleased ; but yet it was with a mixture of Fear. While he was musing, and making Observations to himself, he was accosted by a well-looking Man, who asked him, if he would buy into a particular

particular Fund. He said no, he did not intend to deal. Nay, says the other, I advise you as a Friend, for now is your time, if you have any Money to lay out; as you seem a Stranger, I am willing to inform you in what manner to proceed, lest you should be imposed on by any of the Brokers. He gave him a great many thanks for his kindness; but could not be prevailed on to buy any Stock, as he understood so little of the matter. About half an Hour afterwards, there was a piece of News published, which sunk this Stock a great deal below *Par*. David then told the Gentleman, it was very lucky he had not bought; ay, and so it is, replied he; but when I spoke, I thought it would be otherwise. I am sure, I have lost a great deal by this *curst* News. Immediately David was pulled by the Sleeve by one, who had stood by, and overheard what they had been saying; who whispered him in the Ear, to take care what he did, otherwise the Man, with whom he had been talking, would draw him into some Snare. Upon which he told his new Friend, what had passed with the other, and how he had advised him to buy Stock. Did he, said this Gentleman? I will assure you, I saw that,

very

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very Man fell off as much of *that* Stock
as he could, just before you spoke to
him; but he having a great deal, want-
ed to draw you in, to buy, in order to
avoid losing; for he was acquainted
with the News, before it was made
publick.

DAVID was amazed at such Trea-
chery, and began to suspect every thing
about him, of some ill Design. But he
could not imagine, what Interest this Man
could have in warning him, of trusting
the other, till by conversing with a third
Person, he found out, that he was his
most inveterate Enemy, from Envy; be-
cause they had both set out in the World
together, with the same Views of sacri-
ficing every thing to the raising of a For-
tune; and that, either by cunning or ac-
cident, the other was got rich before him:
This was the Motive, said he, of his
forewarning you of the other's Designs:
For that Gentleman who spoke to you
first, is one of the sharpest Men I know;
he is one of the Long-heads, and much
too wise to let any one impose on him.:
And to let you into a Secret, he is what
we call *a good Man*.

DAVID

DAVID seemed surprized at that Epithet; and asked, how it was possible, a Fellow whom he had just caught in such a piece of Villainy, could be called a good Man? At which Words, the other, with a Sneer at his Folly, told him he meant that he was worth a Plumb. Perhaps he might not understand that neither; (for he began to take him for a Fool) but he meant by a Plumb 100,000 *l*.

DAVID was now quite in a Rage; and resolved to stay no longer in a Place, where Riches were esteemed Goodness, and Deceit, Low-Cunning, and giving up all things to the love of Gain, were thought Wisdom.

As he was going out of the *Change*; he met a Jeweller, who knew him by sight, having seen him at his Uncle's, where he used often to visit. He asked him several Questions; and after a short Conversation, desired he would favour him with his Company at Dinner, for his House was just by.

DAVID readily accepted his Offer, being willing to be acquainted with as great

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great a variety of People as he possibly could. The Jeweller's Name was *Johnson*; he had two Daughters, who were of their Company at Dinner. They were both young, and pretty; especially the younger, who had something so soft and engaging in her Countenance, that *David* was quite charmed with her. Mr. *Johnson*, who had been an extravagant Rake in his Youth, tho' he was now become a Miser, and a rigid Censurer of others Pleasures, immediately perceived the young Man was greatly taken with his Daughter; which he resolved to improve, knowing that his Uncle had made him his Heir, and that it was worth while to endeavour to increase his liking for her. He well remembered, that in his days of Gallantry, he had often from a transient View of Women liked them; but for want of Opportunities of frequently conversing with them, his Passion had grown cool again. He therefore thought the wisest way would be, to engage *David* to stay some time with him, as the surest Method to fix his Affection. It was no hard matter to persuade the young Man, to what his Inclination so strongly prompted him to comply with; though this Inclination was so newly born, he hardly knew himself.

self from what Motive his desire of staying there arose. But this Ignorance did not continue long; for a short time's conversing with his Mistress, convinced him, how much he liked her: He resolved to watch her very narrowly, to see, if her Mind was equal to her Person, which was indeed very agreeable: but Love so magnified her Charms in the Eyes of *David*, that from the moment he took a Fancy to her, *he imagined her Beauty exceeded that of all other Women in the World.* For which Reason he was strongly possessed, she was in all respects what he wish'd her to be.

THE Girl was commanded by her Father, if *Mr. David* made any Addresses to her, to receive them in such a manner, as to fix him hers. He said, he had conversed with Women enough in his time, to know they did not want Arts to manage the Men they had formed any Designs on; and therefore desired she would comply with him, in a Case which would be so greatly to her Advantage. She did not want many Arguments, to persuade her to endeavour the Promotion of her own Interest, which she had as much at heart as he could have. Her only Answer was, she should obey him: on which he
left

left her, highly pleased at her Dutifulness; which he imputed to his own Wisdom, in educating her in a strict manner.

DAVID passed his time very happily; for the Master of the Family omitted nothing in his power to oblige him, and he was always received by his Mistress with chearful Smiles and Good Humour. He lived on in this agreeable manner for three Months, without ever wishing to go in search of new Adventures, thinking he had now found the greatest Happiness to be attained in this World, in a Woman he could both love and esteem. Her Behaviour was in all respects engaging; her Duty to her Father, Complaisance and Affection to her Sister, and Humanity to the Servants, made him conclude, his travelling was at an end; for that in her he had met with every thing he wanted. He was not long before he asked her Father's Consent, which was easily obtained; and now he had not a Wish beyond what he imagined satisfied.

HITHERTO he had observed nothing in her, but what increased his good Opinion. He was one day a little startled, by

by her telling him, he should not seem too anxious, whether he had her, or no; for she was certain her Father designed, if he found he loved her enough to take her on any Terms, to save some of her Fortune to add to her Sister's: but when she told him, she had too much Generosity and Love for him, to let him be imposed on by his Affection to her; this Discourse increased his good Opinion of her; and the Thought that she loved him, gave him the greatest Pleasure. He then told her, he did not care whether her Father would or could give her any thing; her Affection was all he coveted in this World. He spent his time in Raptures, in the reflection, what a charming Life he should lead with such a Woman. But this lasted not long, before all his fancied Scenes of Joy fell to the ground, by an Accident so very uncommon, I must pause a while before I can relate it.

CHAP.



C H A P. V.

*In which is contained, a most curious
Dialogue, between a young Woman,
and her Confident.*

JUST as Mr. *David* and his Mistress were on the point of being married, there came one day a rich Jew to Mr. *Johnson's* House, in order to deal with him for some Jewels. As he had been a long time an Acquaintance of his, he invited him to Dinner. It happened the Jew was as much taken with the elder Daughter, as Mr. *David* was with the younger ; which occasioned his making frequent Visits. The Father soon perceived the Reason of it, and was greatly rejoiced at it ; on which account he delayed the other's Match for a little while, hoping to see them both well disposed of at the same time. But the Jew did not presently declare himself, on the consideration that she was a Christian. He considered, whether it might not be possible, to obtain her on any other Terms than Matrimony.

He

He knew her Father was very covetous ; which gave him hopes, that for a Sum of Money, he himself would sell her. He resolved therefore to try that Method first ; but if that did not succeed, as he found he liked her so much, that he was uneasy without the possession of her, he could but marry her afterwards. He was charmed with her Person, *and thought Women's Souls were of no great consequence*, nor did it signify much what they profess. He took the first Opportunity of making his proposal to the Father, and offered him such a Sum of Money as his Heart leaped at the mention of ; but he endeavoured to conceal the Effect it had on him as much as possible, and only said, he would consider of it till the next Morning, and then he should have an Answer.

As soon as Mr. *Johnson* was alone, he sat down to think seriously on what he should determine. He was sure by the Sum the Jew had offered for his Daughter, that if he did not comply with his Scheme, he would marry her, rather than go without her. But then he was dubious which he should get most by. He was a good while deliberating, which way his Interest would

would be best promoted. At last he concluded, if he could get rid of his Daughter, without giving her any Fortune, and make an Alliance with so rich a Man, it would in the end prove more conducive to his Interest than taking the Money.

WHEN the Jew therefore came at the appointed time to know his Determination, he began by telling him, " He was
" very sorry after so long an Acquain-
" tance, in all which time he had dealt
" fairly with him, (as indeed he had
never attempted to impose on the Jew, knowing it to be impossible) " that he
" should form a Scheme to dishonour his
" Family, and have so ill an Opinion of
" him, to think he would be an Instru-
" ment in it ; but as it might be owing
" to the great Passion he had for his
" Daughter, he was very unwilling to
" fall out with him : If his Love was
" great enough to marry her, he would
" give her to him with all his heart.
" Perhaps he might object to her being
" a Christian ; but he had always used
" her implicitly to obey him ; and there-
" fore he need not fear her conforming
" to whatever he pleased." This Stum-
bling-block once got over, every thing

else was soon agreed between them ; for the Jew consented to take her on her Father's own Terms : And there remained nothing now to do, but to acquaint Miss *Johnson* with it.

SHE was at first startled at the thoughts of changing her Religion : but as she had no more Understanding than was just necessary to set off her own Charms, by knowing which Dress, and which Posture became her best ; and had never been taught any thing more than to go to Church of a *Sunday*, when she was not wanted to stay at home to overlook the Dinner, without knowing any other Reason for it than Custom : The rich Presents the Jew made her, and his Promises of keeping her great, soon overcame all her Scruples, and she consented to have him.

HE now took the privilege of a Son-in-Law, being so soon to be married, and had always one Dish dressed his own way. He one day brought Mr. *Nokes*, an Acquaintance of his, to Dinner with him ; and though he was immensely rich, he was not afraid he would steal away his Mistress, he being too old and ugly to admit a Suspicion of any Woman's liking him.

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him. But unluckily this old Fellow cast his Eye upon *David's* Mistress, and took so great a fancy to her, that he was resolved to have her : He was not afraid of being refused, for he had Money enough to have bought a Lady of much higher Rank ; nor did he give himself any trouble about gaining a Woman's Affections, not thinking them worth having ; but took it for granted, that every *virtuous Woman, when she was married, must love her Husband well enough to make a good Wife, and comply with his Humour.* He went therefore directly to the Father, and offered to make any Settlement he should think proper, if he would give him his Daughter ; who was overjoyed at the Proposal, and made no scruple of promising her to him, without ever reflecting on the base trick he was playing *David.*

As soon as Mr. *Nokes* was gone, *Johnson* sent for his Daughter, and told her what had passed : He said, as she had hitherto been a very obedient Girl, he hoped she would still continue so. He owned he had ordered her to encourage Mr. *Simple's* Addresses, because at that time he appeared to be a very advan-

rageous a Match for her ; but now when a better offered, she would, he said, he certainly in the right to take the Man she could get most by ; otherwise she must walk on foot, while her Sister rode in her Coach. He allowed her a Week's time to consider of it ; well knowing, Women are most apt to pursue their Interests, when they have had time enough to paint to their own Imaginations, how much Riches will conduce to the satisfaction of their Vanity. She made him no Answer, but went immediately to her Chamber, where she had left a young Woman, her chief Confidant, and from whom she concealed nothing. As soon as she entered the Room she threw herself on the Bed, and fell into a violent passion of Crying. Her Companion was amazed, and thinking some dreadful Accident had happened to her, begged to know what was the matter. Miss *Johnson* then told her, what her Father had been saying, with all the Agonies of a Person in the highest Distress. Upon which ensued the following Dialogue which I shall set down word for word ; every body's own Words giving the most lively Representations of their Meaning.

*A Dialogue between Miss Nanny Johnson,
and Miss Betty Trusty.*

Miss Betty. “WELL! and I see
“ nothing in all this,
“ to make you so miserable. You are
“ very sure your Lover will take you
“ without a Farthing, and will think
“ himself happy to have such a Proof of
“ your Affection: And for my part, if
“ it was my Case, I should think it no
“ manner of Sin to disobey a Father,
“ who imposed such unreasonable Com-
“ mands on me.”

Miss Nanny. “OH! my Dear, you
“ quite mistake my Case; I am not
“ troubling my head, either about the
“ Sin, or my Father; but the height of
“ my Distress lies in not knowing my
“ own Mind: if I could once find that
“ out, I should be easy enough. I am
“ so divided, by the Desire of Riches on
“ the one hand; and by my Honour,
“ and the Man I like on the other, that
“ there is such a struggle in my Mind,
“ I am almost distracted.”

Miss *Betty*. * “O FIE, Child, I thought
 “ you had been more constant in your
 “ Nature ; and that when you had given
 “ your Affection to a Man, it had not
 “ been in the power of Money to have
 “ altered you. I am sure if it was my
 “ Case, I should make no question of
 “ preferring a young Man I liked, to an
 “ old decrepid ugly Monster, though he
 “ was ever so rich. I cannot help laugh-
 “ ing at the Idea of his Figure when-
 “ ever it comes in my Head : In him
 “ Nature seems perfectly reversed ; the
 “ Calves of his Legs are placed before,
 “ and his Feet turn inward as it were, in
 “ spight of Nature : One side of his Back
 “ is high enough to carry the load of
 “ Riches he possesses ; and the other is
 “ shrunk in such a manner, that one
 “ would imagine his two Sides were
 “ made only to form a ridiculous Contrast.
 “ Undoubtedly you will be much en-
 “ vied

* Whether these Sentiments of Miss *Betty*’s, arose from her really having more Constancy than her Friend, or were more easy for her to express, as the Temptation was not her own, is a Secret : But I have heard some hints given of a third Reason ; which was, a Desire of having the old rich Man herself.

“vied the Possession of so lovely a
“Creature.”

Miss *Nancy*. “AT what a rate you
“run on: ’Tis easy to talk; but if you
“was in my place, you can’t tell what
“you would feel. Oh that this good
“Offer had but come before I knew the
“other; or at my first Acquaintance
“with him; for then I only received
“him, because my Father bid me, and
“I thought to gain by such a Match :
“But now when I have conversed long
“enough with him, to find it is in his
“power to give me pleasure; I must either
“forsake him, or abandon all Thoughts of
“being a *great Woman*. ’Tis true, my
“Lover can indeed keep me very well,
“I shall not want for any thing he can
“procure me; for I am sure he loves
“me sincerely, and will do all in his
“power to oblige me; and I like him
“very well, and shall have no Reason to
“envy another Woman the possession of
“any Man whatever : But then, he can’t
“afford to buy me fine *Jewels*, to keep
“me an *Equipage*; and I must see my Sis-
“ter ride in her Coach and Six, while I
“take up with a Hack, or at best with
“a Coach and Pair. Oh ! I can never

“ bear that Thought, that is certain ;
 “ my Heart is ready to burst. Sure never
 “ Woman’s Misfortune equalled mine.”
 Here she fell into such a violent Passion
 of Crying, it was some time before she
 could speak ; but when she was a little
 recovered, she went on in the following
 Words : “ Pray, my dear Friend, advise
 “ me ; don’t be silent while I am thus
 “ perplexed, but tell me which will give
 “ me the greatest Pleasure, the Satis-
 “ faction of my Love, or of my Vanity.”

Miss *Betty*. “ WAS ever Woman so
 “ unreasonable ? How is it possible for
 “ me to tell which will give you most
 “ Pleasure ? You certainly must know
 “ that best yourself. I have already told
 “ you, if it was my Case, I should not
 “ hesitate a Moment, but take the young
 “ Fellow, and let the old Wretch pur-
 “ chase what Nurse he pleased ; he may
 “ meet with Women enow who have no
 “ Engagements, and there is no fear that
 “ any such would refuse him.

Miss *Nanny*. “ You say true ; I wish
 “ that had been my Situation, but if I
 “ should neglect this Opportunity of
 “ making my Fortune, every Woman
 “ whom

“ whom I see supported in Grandeur, will
 “ make me mad, to think I had it once
 “ in my power to have been as great
 “ as her. Well, I find it is impossi-
 “ ble I should ever come to any De-
 “ termination; I shall never find out
 “ what I have most mind to do, so I
 “ must even leave it to Chance. I will
 “ go tell Mr. *David* what has happened,
 “ and if he presses me very much to run
 “ away with him, I shall never be able
 “ to resist him; but perhaps he may be
 “ afraid to make me unhappy, and then
 “ I may marry the other without any
 “ Obstruction: but then no doubt he
 “ will marry somebody else, and I can’t
 “ bear that neither. I find it is in vain for
 “ me to think; I am in a Labyrinth, and
 “ the farther I go, the more I am puz-
 “ zled: if I could but contrive some way
 “ to have my Lover, and yet not give
 “ up the Money, I should be happy; but
 “ as that is impossible, I must be mi-
 “ serable, for I shall always regret the
 “ Loss of either. I will do the best I can,
 “ I will have the Riches, that is posi-
 “ tive; if I can possibly command my
 “ self enough to resist my Lover’s Im-
 “ portunities, in case he should persist in
 “ my going away with him.

THUS ended this Dialogue ; in which Vanity seemed to have had a fair chance of gaining the Victory over Love ; or in other words, where a young Lady seemed to promise herself more Pleasure from the Purse than the Person of her Lover. And I hope to be excused by those Gentlemen, who are quite sure they have found one Woman, who is a perfect *Angel*, and that all the rest are perfect *Devils*, for drawing the Character of a Woman who was neither ; for Miss *Nanny Johnson*, was very good-humour'd, had a great deal of Softness, and had no Alloy to these good Qualities, but a great Share of Vanity, with some small Spices of Envy, which must always accompany it. And I make no manner of doubt, but if she had not met with this Temptation, she would have made a very affectionate Wife, to the Man who loved her : he would have thought himself extremely happy, with a perfect Assurance that nothing could have tempted her to abandon him. And when she had had the Experience, what it was to be constantly beloved by a Man of Mr. *Simple's* Goodness of Heart, she would have exulted in her own Happiness, and been the first
to

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to have blamed any other Woman, for giving up the Pleasure of having the Man she loved, for any Advantage of Fortune ; and would have thought it utterly impossible for her ever to have been tempted to such an Action ; which then might possibly have appeared in the most dishonourable Light : For to talk of a Temptation at a distance, and to feel it present, are two such very different things, that every body can resist the one, and very few People the other. But it is now Time to think of poor *David*, who has been all this time in a great deal of Misery ; the Reason of which the next Chapter will disclose.



C H A P.

D 6



C H A P. VI.

*Which treats of Variety of Things,
just as they fell out to the Hero of
our History.*

DAVID was going up to his Mistress's Chamber, to desire her Company to walk ; when he came near the Door, he fancied he heard the Voice of a Woman in Affliction, which made him run in haste to know what was the matter : but as he was entering the Room, being no longer in doubt whose Voice it was, he stopped short, to consider whether he should break in so abruptly or no. In this Interim, he heard the Beginning of the foregoing Dialogue ; this raised such a Curiosity in him, that he was resolved to attend the Event. But what was his Amazement, when he found that the Woman he so tenderly loved, and who he thought had so well returned his Affection, was in the highest Perplexity to determine, whether she should take him with a Competency, or the Monster before described
with

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with great Riches. He could hardly persuade himself that he was not in a Dream. He was going to burst open the Door, and tell her he had been witness to the Delicacy of her Sentiments; but his Tenderness for her, even in the midst of his Passion, restrained him, and he could not bring himself to do any thing to put her into Confusion.

HE went back to his own Room, where Love, Rage, Despair and Contempt alternately took possession of his Mind: He walked about, and raved like a Madman; repeated all the Satires he could remember on Women, all suitable to his present Thoughts, (which is no great wonder, as most probably they were writ by Men, in Circumstances not very different from his.) In short, the first Sallies of his Passion, his Behaviour and Thoughts were so much like what is common on such Occasions, that to dwell long upon them, would be only a Repetition of what has been said a thousand times. The only Difference between him, and the generality of Men in the same Case, was, that instead of resolving to be her Enemy, he could not help wishing her well: For as Tenderness was
always

always predominant in his Mind, no Anger, nor even a just Cause of Hatred, could ever make him inveterate, or revengeful: It cost him very little to be a Christian in that Point; for it would have been more difficult for him to have kept up a Resentment, than it was to forgive the highest Injury, provided that Injury was only to himself, and that his Friends were no Sufferers by it. As soon therefore as his Rage was somewhat abated, and his Passion a little subsided, he concluded to leave his Mistress to the Enjoyment of her beloved Grandeur, with the Wretch already described, without saying or doing any thing that might expose, or any way hurt her.

WHEN he had taken this Resolution, he went down stairs into a little Parlour, where he accidentally met Miss Nanny alone. She, with her Eyes swelled out of her Head with crying, with Fear and Trembling, told him her Father's Proposals. Her manner of Speaking, and her Looks, would have been to him the strongest Proofs of her Love, and given him the greatest Joy, if he had not before known the Secrets of her Heart from her own Mouth. The only Revenge he
took

took, or ever thought of taking, was by endeavouring to pique that Vanity, which was so greatly his Enemy. He therefore put on a cold Indifference, and said, he was very glad to hear she was likely to make so great a Fortune; for his part, he was very easy about it: he thought indeed to have been happy with her as a Wife; but, since her Father had otherwise disposed of her, he should advise her to be dutiful, and obey him.

HE was very bad at acting an insincere Part; but the present Confusion of her Mind was so great, she could not distinguish very clearly; and not knowing he was acquainted with what had passed between her and her Confidant, his Behaviour threw her into a great Consternation, and had the desired Effect of piquing her Vanity. I verily believe, had his Design been to have gained her, and could he have taken the pains to have turned about, and made a sudden Transition in her Mind, from the Uneasiness his Coldness gave her Pride, to a Triumph in a certain Conquest of him, joined to the Love which she really had for him, notwithstanding it was not her predominant Passion,

sion, he might have carried her wherever he pleased. But as that was not his Design, he durst not stay long with her; for he was several times tempted by her Behaviour to think he was not in his Senses, when he fancied he over-heard her say any thing that could be construed to her Disadvantage. And certainly, if the longest experienced Friend had told him what he heard himself, he would have suspected him of Falshood; and if, on being taxed with it, *she had denied it, he would have believed her against the whole World.* But as he was witness himself to what she had said, and was convinced that she could think of such a Fellow as his Rival, for the sake of Money, he had just Resolution enough to leave her, tho' he had a great Struggle in his Mind before he could compass it; and he has often said since, that if he had staid five Minutes longer, his Love would have vanquished his Reason, and he should have become the fond Lover again. Before he went, he took leave of her Father and Sister, with great Civility, for he was resolved to avoid any bustle. He sent for a Coach, put his Clothes into it, and drove from the Door.

M R.

MR. *Johnson* asked no Questions, for he was heartily glad to get rid of him, and thought it was owing to his Daughter's discharging him; he therefore again exulted in his own Wisdom, in making her always obey him. He then went to look for her, in order to applaud her Obedience; but how great was his Surprise, when he found her, instead of being rejoiced at having done her Duty, and being rid of a troublesome Lover, walking about the Room like a mad Woman, crying and tearing her Hair; calling out she was undone for ever; she had no Refuge now; her Misery must last as long as her Life.

HER Father had been in the Room some time before she perceived him, and now she took no notice of him; but continued walking about in the same manner. As soon as he could recollect himself, he began to talk to her, and asked her what could be the Cause of all this Uneasiness; said her Lover was just gone from the Door in a Coach, and he was come to praise her dutiful Behaviour. When she heard *David* was quite gone, it increased her Agony, and she could hardly
 forbear

forbear reproaching her Father, for being the Cause of her losing such a Man. For no sooner did she think him irretrievable, than she fancied in him she had lost every thing truly valuable: And tho' that very Day all her Concern had been how to get rid of him; yet, now he was gone, she would have sacrificed (for the present) even her darling Vanity, if she could have brought him back again. And when Mr. *Johnson* would have comforted her, by telling her of the rich Husband she was to have, she flew into the greatest Rage imaginable, and swore, if she could not see Mr. *Simple* again, she would lock herself up, and never converse with any living Creature more; for, without him, she was undone and ruined.

H E R Father, who had no Idea of a *Woman's being ruin'd any way but one*, began to be startled at her repeating that Word so often, and to fear that the Girl had been drawn in by her Passion to sacrifice her Honour; he was terrified, lest he should prove the Dupe instead of Mr. *Simple*. He stood considering some time, and at last was going to burst into a Rage with his Daughter, resolving, if she was not virtuous, he would turn
her

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her out of doors : But, before he said any thing in Anger to her, a sudden Thought came into his mind, which turned him into a milder Temper. He considered, that as the thing was not publick, and Mr. Nokes was ignorant of it ; it might be all hushed up. He wisely thought, that as she was not in that desperate Condition, in which some Women, who have been guilty of Indiscretions of that kind, are, he might justify himself in forgiving her. If indeed her Reputation had been lost, and she had conversed long enough with a Man to have worn out her Youth and Beauty, and had been left in Poverty, and all kinds of Distress, without any hopes of Relief, *her Folly would then have been so glaring, he could by no means have own'd her for his Child.* But, as he did not at all doubt, when the first Sallies of her Grief were over, she would consent to follow her Interest, and marry the old Man ; and that then he should still have the Pleasure of seeing her a fine Lady, with her own Equipage attending her : He condescended to speak to her in as kind a manner as if he had been sure *Lucretia* herself (*whose Chastity nothing but the fear of losing her Reputation*

tion could possibly have conquered) had not excelled her in Virtue. He desired her to be comforted; for if she had been led astray by the Arts of a Man she liked, if she would be a good Girl, and follow his Advice in concealing it from, and marrying the Man who liked her, he would not only forgive it, but never upbraid, or mention it to her more.

SHE was quite amazed at this Speech; and the Consideration, that even her own Father could suspect her Virtue, which was dearer to her than her Life, did but aggravate her Sorrows. At first she could not help frowning, and reproaching her Father for such a Suspicion, with some Hints of her great wonder how it was possible there could be such Creatures in the World; but, in a little time, her Thoughts were all taken up again with Mr. *Simple's* leaving her. She told her Father, nothing but his returning could make her happy, and she could not think how she had lost him; for she never told him she would prefer the other to him: tho' indeed she was very wavering in her own Mind, yet she had not expressed it to him, and his Indifference was what she could not bear. If he had but sigh'd, and been miserable

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rable for the loss of her, she could have married her old Man without any great Reluctance: But the Thought that he had left her first was insupportable. At this rate did she run on for some time.

MR. *Johnson*, who in his Youth had been very well acquainted with Women's ways, and knew the Ebbs and Flows of their Passions, was very well satisfied, that as there was a great mixture of Vanity in the Sorrow she expressed for the Loss of her Lover, the greater Vanity would in the end conquer the less, and he should bring her to act for her own, and his Interest: He therefore left her, to go and follow his own Affairs, and made no doubt of every thing succeeding according to his Wish. She spent some time in the deepest Melancholy, and felt all the Misery which attends a Woman who has many things to wish, but knows not positively which she wishes most. Sometimes her Imagination would represent Mr. *Simple* with all the Softness of a Lover, and then the Love she had had for him would melt her into Tenderness; then in a Moment his Indifference and Neglect came into her head, her Pride was piqued, and she was all Rage and Indignation;

dignation; then succeeded in her Thoughts the old Man and his Money: So that Love, Rage and Vanity were in the greatest Contention which should possess the largest share of her Inclinations. It cannot be determined how long this Agitation of Mind would have lasted, had not her Sister's Marriage with the rich Jew put an end to it; which being celebrated with great Pomp and Splendor, made Miss *Nanny* resolve she would not be outdone in Grandeur: She therefore consented to give her Hand to Mr. *Nokes*, and as he was ready to take her, it was soon concluded; and she now no longer made any difficulty of preferring Gaiety and Show to every thing in the World. She thought herself ill used by Mr. *Simple*, (not knowing the true Cause of his leaving her in that abrupt manner;) so that her Pride helped her to overcome any Remains of Passion, and she fancied herself in the Possession of every thing which could give Happiness, namely, splendid Equipages and glittering Pomp. But she soon found herself greatly mistaken; her fine House, by constantly living in it, became as insipid as if it had been a Cottage: A short time took away all the giddy Pleasure which

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which attends the first Satisfaction of Vanity.

HER Husband, who was old, soon became full of Diseases and Infirmities, which turned his Temper (naturally not very good) into Moroseness and Ill-nature : And as he had married a Woman whom he thought very much obliged to him, on account of his Superiority of Fortune, he was convinced it was but reasonable she should comply with his peevish Humours ; so that she had not lived long with him, before the only Comfort she had, was in the hopes of out-living him.

SHE certainly would soon have broke her Heart, had she known that all this Misery, and the loss of the greatest Happiness, in being tenderly used by a Man of Sense, who loved her, was her own Fault ; but as she thought it his Inconstancy, to his Generosity, in not telling her the Truth, she owed the avoiding that painful Reflection. The uneasy State of her Mind made her peevish, and cross to all around her ; and she never had the Pleasure of enjoying that Fortune, which she had been so desirous of obtaining : Her Husband, notwithstanding

standing his old Age, died of a spotted Fever; she caught the Infection of him, and survived him but three Days. But I think it now full time to look after my Hero.



CHAP. VII.

*Containing a remarkable Contention
between three Sisters.*

POOOR *David's* Heart was ready to burst. He ordered his Coach to drive into *Fleetstreet*, where he presently took a Lodging; and now being at some distance from the Cause of his Torment, and at liberty to reflect on what had passed, he found it was much harder to conquer a Passion than to raise it; for notwithstanding the great Contempt he had for his Mistress's Conduct, and his Aversion to the very Thought of a mercenary Woman, yet would his Fancy set before him, all those Scenes of Pleasure, he once imagined he should enjoy

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enjoy with the Object of his Love. With those Thoughts returned all his Fondness : Then came his Reason spitefully to awake him from the pleasing Dream, and represented to him, he ought to forget it was ever in the power of a Person who so highly deserved to be despised, to have contributed to his Pleasure. But all the Pains could take to overcome his Inclination for her, could not make him perfectly easy ; sometimes he would weep, to think that Vanity should prevent such a Creature from being perfect ; then would he reflect on the Opinion he once had of her, and from thence conclude, if she could have such Faults, no Woman was ever truly good ; and that Nature had certainly thrown in some Vices to Women's Minds, lest good Men should have more Happiness than they are able to bear. On this Consideration, he thought it would be in vain to search the World round, for he was sure he could meet with nothing better than what he had already seen ; and he fancied he might certainly justify himself in going back to her, who had no Faults, but what Nature, for some wise Purpose, had given to all Creatures of the same kind : He began to flatter himself, that Time and Conversation with him,

would get the better of those small Frailties (*for such he soon began to think them*) which, perhaps, might be only owing to Youth, and the want of a good Education. With these Reflections, he was ready to go back, to throw himself at her Feet, and ask ten thousand Pardons for believing his own Senses ; to confess himself highly to blame, and unworthy her Favour, for having left her. However, he had just Sense enough left, to send a Spy first, to enquire into her Conduct concerning the old Man, who came just as she was married. This News assisted him to get the better of his Love ; and he never inquired for her more, tho' he was often thoughtful on her account.

Now was *David* in the same Condition as when he discovered his Brother's Treachery. The World was to begin again with him ; for he could find no Pleasure in it, unless he could meet with a Companion who deserved his Esteem : he had been used ill, by both the Man and the Woman he had loved. This gave him but a melancholy Prospect, and sometimes he was in perfect Despair ; but then his own Mind was a Proof to him, that Generosity, Good-nature, and a Capacity

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capacity for real Friendship, were to be found in the World. Besides, he saw the Shadow of those Virtues in so many Minds, that he did not in the least doubt, but that the Substance must exist in some place or other. He resolved, therefore, to go on in his Search ; for he was sure, if ever he could find a valuable Friend, in either Man or Woman, he should be doubly paid for all the Pains and Difficulties he could possibly go through.

HE took a new Lodging every Week, and always the first thing he did, was to inquire of his Landlady, the Reputation of all the Neighbourhood ; but he never could hear one good Character, from any of them, only every one separately gave very broad Hints of their own Goodness, *and what pity it was, they should be obliged to live amongst such a set of People.* As he was not quite so credulous to take their Words, he generally, in two or three Days, had some reason to believe they were not totally exempt from Partiality to themselves. He went from house to house, for some time, without meeting with any Adventure worth relating. He found all the Women tearing one another to pieces from Envy, and the

Men sacrificing each other for every trifling Interest. Every Shop he went into, he heard Men swear they could not afford their Goods under such a Price, one Minute, and take a great deal less the next ; *which even his Charity could not impute to the desire of serving the Buyer.* In short, the Generality of Scenes he saw, he could never mention without a Sigh, or think of without a Tear.

IN one of the Houses where he lodged, the Master of the Family died while he was there. This Man had three Daughters, every one of whom, attended him with the utmost Duty and Care during his Illness, and at the approach of his last Moments, shewed such Agonies of Grief and tender Sorrow, as gave our Hero great Pleasure. He reflected how much happier the World would be, if all Parents would sustain the helpless Infancy of their Children, with that Tenderneſs and Care, which would be thought natural by every good Mind, unexperienced in the World, for all Creatures to have towards every thing immediately placed under their Protection ; and as they grew older, form their Minds, and instruct them, with that Gentleneſs and Affection, which would
plainly

plainly prove every thing they said or did, was for their Good, instead of commanding them with an arbitrary Power. He thought that Children thus educated, with grateful Minds would return that Care and Love to their Parents, when old Age and Infirmities rendered them Objects of Compassion, and made it necessary for them to be attended with more Assiduity, than is generally met with in those People who only serve them for their Money.

THE three Daughters above-mention'd never ceased crying and lamenting, till their Father was buried, in all which time Mr. *Simple* did all he could to comfort them ; but, as soon as the Funeral was over, they dried up their Tears, and seem'd quite recover'd. The next Morning, as *David* was musing by himself, he was startled by a sudden Noise he knew not what to make of. At first he fancied it was the chattering of Magpyes ; then he recollected, that some young female Neighbours of his, fearing lest there should be *too much Silence in their House*, kept two or three Parrots to entertain themselves with. At last he thought he heard something like the Sound of human

Voices, but so confused and intermixed, three or four together, that nothing could be distinguished. He got up, and went towards the Room the Noise seem'd to come from: But how great was his Amazement, when he threw open the Door, and saw the three dutiful Daughters, (whom he had so much applauded in his own Mind) looking one pale as Death, the other red as Scarlet, according as their different Constitutions or Complexions were worked on by violent Passions; each of them holding a Corner of a most beautiful Carpet in her Hand. The moment they saw *David*, they ran to him, got hold of him, and began to tell their story all at a time. They were agitated by their Rage to such a degree, that not one of them could speak plain enough to be understood; so that he stood as if he had been surrounded by the three Furies, for a considerable time, before he could have any Comprehension what they would be at. At last, with great Intreaties that one of them would speak at a time, he so far prevailed, that the eldest told him the Story, tho' it was not without several Interruptions and many Disputes.

THEIR

THEIR Father had left all he had to be divided equally amongst them ; and, when they came to examine his Effects (which they did very early in the Morning after the Funeral) they found this Carpet, which was a Present to him from a Merchant, and was one of the finest that ever was seen. The Moment they set eyes on it, they every one resolved to have it for themselves, on which arose a most violent Quarrel ; and, as none of them would give it up, the most resolute of them took a pair of Scissars, and cut it into three Parts. They were all vex'd to have it spoil'd, yet each was better pleas'd, than if either of the Sisters had had it whole. But still the Difference was not decided, for in one of the Pieces was a more remarkable fine Flower than the rest, and this they had every one fixed on as their own. When *David* had heard all this, he could not express his Astonishment, but stood staring at them, like one *who has seen, or fancies he has seen, a Ghost*. He desired them to let go their Hold, for he could not possibly be a Judge in a Dispute of so nice a nature. On which they all cry'd out, they would have the Flower divided ; for they had rather

see it cut in a thousand pieces, than that any body should have it but themselves.

As soon as *David* could free himself from them, he ran down stairs, got as far out of their hearing as he could, and left the House that very Night.

THE Behaviour of these Sisters to each other, and that lately shown to their Father, may appear perhaps very inconsistent, and difficult to be reconciled. But it must be considered, that as the old Man had always preserved all the Power in his own hands, they had been used implicitly to obey his Commands, and wait on him; and as to their Grief at his Death, there is to most People a Terror and Melancholy in Death itself, which strikes them with Horror at the sight of it: And it being usual for Families to cry and mourn for their Relations, till they are buried, there is such a Prevalency in Custom, that it is not uncommon to see a whole House in Tears, for the Death of those very People they have hated and abused while living, tho' their Grief ceases with their Funerals. But these three Sisters had an inveterate Hatred to each other; for the eldest being
much

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much older than the others, had, during their Childhood, usurped so unreasonable an Authority over them, as they could never forgive; and as they were handsomer when they grew up than she was, they were more liked by the rest of the World, and consequently more disliked and hated by her. The other two, as they were nearer of an Age, in all appearance might have agreed better; but they had met with one of those fine Gentlemen, who make Love to every Woman they chance to be in company with. Each of these two Sisters fancied he was in love with her; they therefore grew jealous Rivals, and never after could endure one another: yet, notwithstanding all this, I make no doubt, but on the Death of either, the others could have perform'd the *Ceremony of crying*, with as good a Grace as if they had loved one another ever so well. Nay, and what is yet more surprizing, this Grief might not have been altogether Affectation: for when any Person is in so low a State of Body, Mind, or Fortune, as makes it impossible for them to be the Objects of Envy, if there is the least grain of Compassion or Good-nature in the human Mind, it has full Power to exert itself,

and the Thought of being about for ever to lose any body we are used to converse with, like a Charm, suddenly banishes from our Thoughts all the Bad, which former Piques and Quarrels ever suggested to us they had in them, and immediately brings to our Remembrance all the good Qualities they possessed.

POOR Mr. *Simple* began now utterly to despair that he should ever meet with any Persons who would *give him leave* to have a good Opinion of them a Week together ; for he found such a Mixture of bad in all those he had yet met with, that as soon as he began to think well of any one, they were sure to do something to shock him, and overthrow his Esteem : He was in doubt in his own Mind, whether he should not go to some remote Corner of the Earth, lead the Life of a Hermit, and never see a human Face again ; but, as he was naturally of a social Temper, he could not bear the Thoughts of such a Life. He therefore concluded he would proceed in his Scheme, till he had gone through all degrees of People ; and, if he continu'd still unsuccessful, he could but retire at last.



CHAP. VIII.

*Wherein is to be seen the Infallibility
of Men's Judgments concerning the
Virtues or Vices of their own Wives.*

*A Scene taken from very low Life,
in which only such Examples are to
be found.*

AS David was one day walking along the Strand, full of these Reflections, he met a Man with so contented a Countenance, he could not forbear having a Curiosity to know who he was : he therefore watched him home ; and, on Enquiry, found he was a Carpenter, who work'd very hard, brought home all the Money he could get to his Wife, and that they led a very quiet peaceable Life together. He was resolv'd to take the first Opportunity of sending for him, on pretence of imploying him in his Trade, in order to know, from his own mouth, what it was caused those great Signs of Happiness, which so visibly appear'd in his Countenance. The Man told him, "He was indeed the happiest of all Mortals : for
" he certainly had the best Wife in the
" World ; to which was owing that

“Chearfulness he was pleas’d to take notice of.” This still rais’d his Curiosity the more, and made him resolve to go to the Man’s House to observe his Manner of living. He told him he had a desire to see this good Woman, whose Character pleas’d him so well, and that he would go home to dinner with him. The Carpenter, who thought he never had Witness enough of his *Wife’s Goodness*, said, “He should be very proud of his Company.” And home they went together.

Mr. *Simple* expected to have found every thing prepared in a neat, tho’ plain way, by this *extraordinary Woman*, for the Reception and Comfort of her Husband, after his Morning’s Work : But how greatly was he surprized, when he heard by a Prentice Boy, (who was left at home to wait on her, instead of assisting his Master in his Business) that she was in Bed, and desired her Husband would go and buy the Dinner, which the Boy dress’d for them, but very ill ; and, when it was ready, the Lady condescended to sit down at Table with them, with the Boy waiting behind her Chair ; and what was still the more amazing, was, that this Woman was ugly, to such a degree, that
it

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it was a wonder any Man could think of her at all. The whole Dinner pass'd in the Man's Praises of her Good-Humour and Virtue, and in Exultings in the Happiness of possessing *such a Creature*.

THIS Scene perplex'd *David* more than any thing he had yet seen, and he endeavour'd all he could to account for it. He therefore desir'd to board with them a Week, in order to find out, if possible, what could be the Cause of a Man's Fondness for *such a Woman*. In all the time he was there, he observed she indulg'd herself in drinking Tea, and in such Expences as a Man in his way could not possibly supply, notwithstanding all his Industry; but he thought nothing too much for her. After all the Reflections that could be made on this Subject, there could be no other Reason assign'd for this poor Man's being such a willing Slave, but her great Pride, and high Spirit, which impos'd on him, and made him afraid to disoblige her; together with a certain Self-sufficiency in all she said or did; which, join'd to her Superiority to him in Birth (she having been a Lady's waiting Gentlewoman) made him imagine her much more capable than she really was, in all respects.

I THINK

I THINK it very likely, if she had known her own Deserts, and been humble in her Behaviour, he would have paid her no other Compliment, than that of confessing her in the right, in the mean Thoughts she had of herself. He then would have been Master in his own House, and have made a Drudge of her; an Instance of which, *David* saw while he was there, by a Man who came one day to visit his Neighbour, and was what is called by those sort of People, a jolly Companion: The first thing he did, was to abuse his Wife. He said, “he had left her at
 “ home out of humour, and would al-
 “ ways deal with her after that manner,
 “ when he found her inclined to be ill
 “ tempered.” The Carpenter cast a look on *his Wife*, which expressed his Satisfaction, in having so much the Advantage of his Acquaintance. The other went on, in saying, “for his part, he
 “ could never have any thing he liked at
 “ home, therefore he would stay but
 “ little there.”

DAVID hearing all this, had a great Desire to see if this Woman was as much better than her Husband thought her, as
 the

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the other was worse ; and told the Man, if he would let him come and board with him a Week, he would give him his own Price. The other answered, " He should
" be very welcome, but his Wife did
" things in such an aukward Way, he
" was afraid he would not stay there a
" Day." But he, who was very indifferent as to what he eat and drank, was not frighten'd at this, and went home with the Man. He found the Woman hard at work, with two small Children, the eldest not four Years old, playing round her ; they were dressed in coarse things, full of Patch-work, but yet whole and clean ; every thing in the House was neat, and plainly proved the Mistress of that Family, having no Servant, could not be idle. As soon as they came in, she rose from her work, made an humble Court'sy to the Stranger, and received her Husband with a mixture of Love and Fear. He, in a surly Tone, said, " Well
" *Moll*, I hope you are in a better Humour than when I left you, here is a
" Gentleman wants to board with us for
" a Week, you had best not be in your
" Airs ; none of your crying and whining, for I won't stay an hour in the
" House, if you don't behave yourself
" as

“as you ought.” The poor Woman, who could hardly refrain from Tears, said, “indeed, she was in very good Humour, and would do all she could in her homely way, to give the Gentleman Content.” She had been very pretty, but her Eyes now had a Deadness in them, and her Countenance was grown pale, which seemed to be occasioned by the Sorrow and hard Labour she had endured, which produced the Effects of old Age, even in Youth itself.

THE Husband never spoke for any thing but it was done, as if by Incantment ; for she flew to obey him, the moment he but intimated his Inclinations : she watched his very Looks, to observe what he would have, and if ever he expressed himself mildly, it seemed to give her vast Pleasure. Every thing was ordered in the House, in the most frugal and best manner possible ; yet she could seldom get a good Word from the Man she endeavoured to please. Her modest Behaviour, Love to her Husband, and Tendernefs for her Children, in short, every thing she did or said, raised a great Compassion in *David*, and a strong Desire to know her Story, which he took
the

the first Opportunity of desiring her to relate. She for a great while excused herself, saying, she could not tell her Story without reflecting on the Man she was unwilling to blame. But on *David's* assuring her, every thing should be a Secret, and that he would exert the utmost of his Power to serve her, she was at last prevailed on to give the following Account of her Life.

“ As you seem, Sir, so desirous of
 “ knowing my Misfortunes, I cannot
 “ refuse complying with your Request;
 “ tho’ the Remembrance of most of the
 “ past Scenes of my Life brings nothing
 “ but melancholy Thoughts to my Mind,
 “ which I endeavour, as much as possible,
 “ to avoid. Indeed, I have so few
 “ Comforts, that it’s well my being continually
 “ obliged to employ myself in
 “ feeding and covering these my Little-
 “ ones, prevents my having time to think
 “ so much, as otherwise I should.

“ My Father was a great Distiller in
 “ the City, and I was bred up with the
 “ utmost Tendernefs and Care, till I was
 “ ten Years old, when he died and left
 “ me to the Care of an elder Brother, to
 “ depend

“ depend on his pleasure for my Support.
“ He was a sort of Man, it is impossible
“ to draw any Character of, for I never
“ knew him do one Action in my Life,
“ that was not too much in the common
“ Road to be remarked. He kept me
“ in his House without either abusing,
“ or shewing the least Affection towards
“ me ; by which sort of Behaviour, he
“ neither gained my Love, nor my Ha-
“ tred, but I lived a dull Life with very
“ few things to amuse me : for as all the
“ Companions I used to play with in my
“ Father’s Time, had plenty of Money,
“ and I now was kept without any, they
“ soon shunned me, and I was as willing
“ to avoid them, having too much Pride
“ to be beholden to them for paying my
“ share of the Expence. I had now no-
“ thing to do but to fly to Books for Re-
“ fuge : All the Pleasure I had, was in
“ reading Romances, so that by the time
“ I was Fifteen, my Head was full of
“ nothing but Love. While I was in
“ this Disposition, one Sunday, as I came
“ out of Church, an old Woman fol-
“ lowed me, and whispered in my Ear,
“ if I had a mind to save a pretty young
“ Fellow’s Life, I should give a kind
“ Answer to a Note he had sent by her ;
“ which

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“ which she put into my Hand, and pre-
“ sently mixed amongst the Croud. I
“ made haste home with the utmost Im-
“ patience, to read my Letter; it con-
“ tained the strongest Expressions of
“ Love, and was writ so much in the
“ strain of some of my favourite Books,
“ that I was over-joyed at the Thoughts
“ of such an Adventure. However, I
“ would not answer it, thinking some
“ Years Service due to me, before such
“ a Favour should be granted; for I be-
“ gan now to look on myself as the He-
“ roine of a Romance. The young Man
“ was Clerk to an Attorney in the Neigh-
“ bourhood, and was none of those luke-
“ warm Lovers, who require their Mi-
“ stresses to meet them half way, but he
“ followed me with the utmost Affiduity.
“ This exactly suited my Taste, and I
“ soon found a great Inclination for him,
“ yet was resolved to make a long Court-
“ ship of it; but a very few Meetings
“ with him, got the better of all my Re-
“ solutions, and he made me engage my
“ self to him.

“ If my Brother had treated me with
“ Good-nature, I certainly should have
“ acquainted him with this Affair: but
“ he

“ he took so little Notice of me, and
 “ whenever I spoke to him, shewed such
 “ a Contempt for talking with Girls, that
 “ he being twice my Age, I contracted
 “ such an Awe of him, I really was
 “ afraid to tell him of it. I take shame
 “ to myself, for giving so easily into
 “ an Affair of this nature : but I was
 “ young, and had no body to advise or
 “ instruct me, for my Mother died when
 “ I was an Infant : which, I hope, may
 “ be some excuse for me, but I won’t tire
 “ you with my foolish Remarks.

“ My Brother happened one day to
 “ bring home a young Man to dinner
 “ with him, who took such a fancy to
 “ me, he would have married me. My
 “ Person then, as I was told, was very
 “ agreeable, tho’ now, Sir, I am so al-
 “ tered, nobody would know me to be
 “ the same Woman. This young Man
 “ was in very good Circumstances, which
 “ you may be sure, made my Brother rea-
 “ dily agree to it. He therefore told me of
 “ it, but was greatly surprized, to find me
 “ utterly averse to the Match ; he teased
 “ me so much about it, that at last I
 “ told him the Truth, that I was already
 “ engaged, both in Honour and Inclination,
 “ nation,

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“ nation, to another. On hearing this,
“ he fell into the most violent Rage ima-
“ ginable, at my daring to engage myself
“ to any one, without his Consent. He
“ told me, the Man I had pleased to take
“ a fancy to, was a pitiful Fellow. That
“ his Master often said, he would never
“ come to any Good, for he thought of
“ nothing but his Pleasures, and never
“ minded his Business. In short, he said,
“ if I would not give him up, he would
“ abandon me, and never see me more.
“ This Roughness and Brutality made
“ me still fonder of my Lover, who was
“ all Complaisance and Eagerness to
“ please me. I took the first Opportuni-
“ ty of informing him of what had hap-
“ pened. He was not at all concerned,
“ as he saw me so resolute, only he
“ pressed me to marry him immediately,
“ which my foolish Fondness soon made
“ me consent to. My Brother was as good
“ as his word, for he would never see
“ me more. And, indeed, it was not
“ long, before I found what he had told
“ me was too true, that my Husband
“ would not follow his Business; for as
“ soon as he was out of his Time, he swore
“ he would have no more to do with it.
“ His Father was a very good Man, but,
“ unfor-

“ unfortunately for me, died soon after
“ we were married ; for he would have
“ been kind to me, if he had lived. He
“ had more Children, and was not very
“ rich, so that he could not leave us a
“ great deal : However, he left me 30 *l.*
“ *per Annum*, in an Annuity ; and to his
“ Son 500 *l.* which he soon spent, and
“ made me sell my Annuity : I have ne-
“ ver refus’d him any thing since we have
“ been marry’d. You see, Sir, by the
“ manner we live, Money is not very
“ plenty with us, tho’ I do my Household
“ Affairs myself, take care of my poor
“ Children, and am glad to do Plain-
“ Work besides, when I can get it ; that,
“ by all means possible, I may help to sup-
“ port the Man, whom yet I love with
“ the greatest Fondness, notwithstand-
“ ing you see he doth not treat me with
“ an equal Tendernefs.

“ HE has a Brother, who allows him
“ a small matter, so that we make shift
“ to rub on with Bread, and I could be
“ content with my Lot, if he behaved
“ to me as when we were first married ;
“ what has occasioned this Alteration I
“ cannot imagine, for I don’t find he
“ converses with any other Women, and
“ I have always been a very humble
“ Wife :

Chap. 8. of DAVID SIMPLE. 95

“ Wife : I have humour’d him in every
“ thing he has desir’d : I have never
“ upbraided him with the Misery I have
“ suffer’d for his sake, nor refus’d him
“ any of the little Money I get. I re-
“ member once, when I had but just
“ enough to buy a Dinner for the Day, and
“ had been hard at work, he had a mind
“ to go out, where he thought he should
“ be merry : I let him have this little,
“ and conceal’d from him that I had no
“ more ; thinking it impossible for him to
“ take it, if he had known the Truth. I
“ eat nothing but Bread that Day. When
“ he came home at night, I receiv’d him
“ with great good Humour ; but had a
“ Faintness upon me, which prevented
“ my being chearful, which he immedi-
“ ately imputed to the Badness of my
“ Temper. He swore there was no living
“ *with Women*, for they had such *vile Hu-*
“ *mours* no Mortal could bear them. Thus
“ even my Tenderness for him is turn’d
“ against me, and I can do nothing that
“ he does not dislike ; yet my Fondness
“ still continues for him, and there are no
“ pains I would not take, if he would re-
“ turn it ; but he imputes it to a Warmth
“ in my Inclination, which *Accident* might
“ as well have given to another Man.”

DAVID

DAVID, who sat silent all this while, and attended to her Discourse, was amazed at her Story ; he assured her he would do all in his power to serve her, and would leave her some Money, which she might produce at times as she thought proper ; and try if finding her always able and willing to supply her Husband with what he wanted, would not make him kinder to her. He said he had great Compassion for her, gave her five Guineas, being all he had about him, and promised to send her more, which he punctually perform'd.

WHEN *David* came to reflect, he was perfectly amazed, how it was possible for one Man to be continually rejoicing in his own Happiness, and declaring he had the best of Wives, altho' she spent all his Substance, and threw the burden of every thing upon him ; while another was continually complaining of his Wife, when her whole Time and Labour was spent to promote his Interest, and support him and his Children. *However common it may be in the World*, the Goodness of *David's* Heart could not conceive how it was possible for good
Usage

Usage to make a Man despise his Wife, instead of returning Gratitude and Good-humour for her Fondness. He never once reflected on what is perhaps really the Case, that to prevent a Husband's Surfeit or Satiety in the Matrimonial Feast, a little Acid is now and then very prudently thrown into the Dish by the Wife.



CHAP. IX.

Containing some Proofs, that all Men are not exactly what they wish to pass for in the World.

THE next Lodging our Hero took, was near *Covent-Garden*; where he met with a Gentleman, who accidentally lodg'd in the same House, whose Conversation Mr. *Simple* was mightily charm'd with: He had something in his Manner, which seem'd to declare that inward Serenity of Mind, which arises from a Consciousness of doing well, and every Trifle appear'd to give him pleasure, because he had no Tumults within to disturb his Happiness. His Sentiments were all so refined, and his Thoughts so delicate, that *David* imagin'd such a Companion,

if he was not again deceived in his Opinion, would be the greatest Blessing this World could afford.

THIS Gentleman, whose Name was *Orgueil*, being of *French* Extraction, was equally pleased with Mr. *Simple*, and they spent their whole time together : He had a great deal of good Acquaintance, that is, he conversed with all the People of Sense he could meet with, without any Considerations what their Fortunes were ; for he did not rate Men at all by the Riches they possessed, but by their own Behaviour. In this Man therefore did *David* think he had met with the Completion of all his Wishes ; for, on the closest Observation, he could not find he was guilty of any one Vice, nor that he neglected any Opportunity in his power of doing good ; the only Fault he could ever discern in him, was, a too severe Condemnation of others Actions : for he would never make any allowance for the Frailties of Human Nature, but expected every one to act up to the strictest Rules of Reason and Goodness. But this was overlooked by a Friend, and imputed to his knowing, by himself, the Possibility of avoiding those Frailties, if due Care was taken. Wherever he went, he car-

Chap. 9. of DAVID SIMPLE. 99

ried *David* with him, and introduced him into a perfect new Scene of Life: for hitherto his Conversation had been chiefly amongst a lower Degree of Men. The Company in which Mr. *Orgueil* delighted, was of People who were bred to genteel Professions, and who were neither to be reckoned in very high, nor in low Life. They went one Night to a Tavern, with four other Gentlemen, who had every one a great deal of that kind of Wit, which consists in the Assemblage of those Ideas, which, tho' not commonly join'd, have such a Resemblance to each other, that there is nothing preposterous, or monstrous in the joining them; whereas I have known some People, for the sake of saying a witty thing, as it were by force, haul together such inconsistent Ideas, as nothing but Vanity, and a strong Resolution of being witty in *spite of Nature*. could have made them think of. But this Conversation was quite of a different kind; all the Wit was free and easy; every thing that was said seem'd to be spoke with a desire of entertaining the Company, without any Reflection on the Applause that was to arise from it to themselves. In short, nothing but Envy and Anger, at not having been Author of every thing that was said, could have prevented any

Person's being pleased with every Expression that was made use of. And, as *David's* Mind was entirely free from those low, mean Qualities, his Entertainment was pure and unmixed.

THE next Morning passed in Observations on the Conversation of the foregoing Night, and *David* thanked his Friend for the Pleasure his Acquaintance had given him. "Ay, says the other, " I do not in the least doubt but one of " your Taste must be highly satisfied " with every one of those Gentlemen you " supped with last Night; but your Goodness will make you sigh at what I am " going to relate. Each of those Men " you were so delighted with, has such " glaring Faults, as make them all unfit " to be thought of, in any other light, " than that of contributing to our Diversion. They are not to be trusted, " nor depended on in any point in Life; " and altho' they have such Parts and " Sense, that I cannot help liking their " Company, I am forced, when I reflect, to think of them just as I do of a " Buffoon, who diverts me, without engaging either my Love or Esteem. " Perhaps you may blame me, when I " have told you their real Characters, for " having

“ having any thing to say to them ; but,
 “ as I consider I have not the power of
 “ Creation, I must take Men as they are ;
 “ and a Man must be miserable, who can-
 “ not bring himself to enjoy all the Plea-
 “ sures he can innocently attain, without
 “ examining too nicely into the Delicacy
 “ of them. That Man who sat next you,
 “ and to whom I was not at all surprized
 “ to see you hearken with so much Atten-
 “ tion, notwithstanding all those beau-
 “ tiful Thoughts of his on Covetous-
 “ ness, and the Eloquence in which he
 “ display’d its Contemptibleness, is so
 “ great a Miser, that he would let the
 “ greatest Friend suffer the height of Mi-
 “ sery rather than part with any thing to
 “ relieve him : And was it possible to
 “ raise, by any means, Compassion enough
 “ in him, to extort the least trifle, the
 “ Person, who once had a Farthing of his
 “ Money, would be ever afterwards hate-
 “ ful to him. For Men of his Turn of
 “ Mind take as great an Aversion to those
 “ People, whom they think themselves,
 “ or, to speak more properly, their Chests
 “ a penny the poorer for, as Children do
 “ to the Surgeons who have drawn away
 “ any of their Blood.

“ THAT other Gentleman, who seem’d
 “ to pitch on Extravagance as the pro-
 “ perest Subject to harangue against, is
 “ himself the most extravagant of all
 “ Mortals; he values not how he gets
 “ Money, so that he can but spend it;
 “ and, notwithstanding his Lavishness,
 “ he is full as much a Miser, to every
 “ body but himself, as the other. Indeed
 “ he is reputed by the mistaken World
 “ to be generous; and, as he perfectly
 “ understands the Art of flattering him-
 “ self, he believes he is so: but nothing
 “ can be farther from it. For, tho’ he
 “ would not scruple to throw away the
 “ last twenty Guineas he had in the world,
 “ to satisfy any Fancy of his own, he
 “ would at the same time grudge a Shil-
 “ ling to do any thing that is right, or
 “ to serve another. These two Men,
 “ who appear so widely different, you
 “ may suppose have a strong Contempt
 “ for each other; but if they could think
 “ of themselves with that Impartiality,
 “ and judge of their own Actions with
 “ that good Sense, with which they judge
 “ of every thing else, they would find
 “ that they are much more alike than
 “ they at present imagine. The Motive
 “ of both their Actions is Selfishness,
 “ which

Chap. 9. of DAVID SIMPLE. 103

“ which makes every thing center wholly
“ in themselves. It was Accident brought
“ them together last Night ; for a cove-
“ tious Man as naturally shuns the Com-
“ pany of a Prodigal, unless he has a
“ great Estate, and he can make a Prey
“ of him, as an envious ugly Woman
“ does that of a handsome one, unless
“ she can contrive to do her some mis-
“ chief by conversing with her.

“ T H A T Gentleman whosat next me,
“ and inveighed against Treachery and
“ Ingratitude, with such a Strength of
“ Imagination, and delightful Variety of
“ Expressions, that a *Pythagorean* would
“ have thought the Soul of *Seneca* had
“ been transmigrated into him ; I know
“ a Story of, that will at once raise your
“ Wonder and Detestation.

“ H I S Father was one of those sort of
“ Men, who, tho' he never designed any
“ Ill, yet from an indolent, careless Dis-
“ position, and trusting his Affairs en-
“ tirely to others, ran out of a very good
“ Estate, and left his Son at the Age of
“ Fifteen, upon the wide World to shift
“ for himself. An old Gentleman in the
“ Neighbourhood took a great fancy to
“ this Boy, from the Genius he saw in
“ him.

“ him. He received him into his House,
 “ kept him, as if he had been his own
 “ Son, and at length made use of all his
 “ Interest to procure him a Commission
 “ in the Army, which he accomplished ;
 “ and being in time of Peace, he easily
 “ obtained leave for him to come often,
 “ and spend much of his Time at his
 “ House. The good old Man had a
 “ Daughter, who was just Fifteen when
 “ our Spark was Twenty, she was hand-
 “ some to a miracle, the Object of her
 “ Father’s most tender Love and Affec-
 “ tion, and the Admiration of every body
 “ who knew her. She repaid her Father’s
 “ Tenderness with the utmost Duty and
 “ Care to please him, and her whole
 “ Happiness was placed in his Kindness
 “ and good Opinion of her. She was
 “ naturally warm in her Passions, and in-
 “ clined to love every body, who endea-
 “ voured to oblige her. This young
 “ Gentleman soon fell in love with her :
 “ That is, *he found it was in her power*
 “ *to give him Pleasure, and he gave him-*
 “ *self no trouble what Price she paid for*
 “ *gratifying his Inclination.* In short, he
 “ made use of all the Arts he is master,
 “ of (and you see how agreeable he can
 “ make himself) to get her Affections ;
 “ which as soon as he found he had ob-
 “ tained,

Chap. 9. of DAVID SIMPLE. 105

“ tained, he made no scruple of making
“ use of that very Love in her Breast
“ (which ought to have made him wish
“ to protect and guard her from every
“ Misfortune) to betray her into the
“ greatest Scene of Misery imaginable ;
“ and all the Return he made to the Man,
“ who had been a Father to him from
“ Choice, and Good-nature, was, to de-
“ stroy all the Comfort he proposed in
“ his old Age, of seeing his beloved,
“ only Child happy.

“ H E was soon weary of her, and
“ then left her in a Condition the most
“ unable to bear Afflictions, to suffer
“ more than can be expressed. The be-
“ ing forsaken by the Man she loved,
“ and the Horror of being discovered by
“ her Father, made her almost distract-
“ ed ; it was not that she was afraid of
“ her Father, but she loved him so well,
“ that her greatest Terror was the
“ Thoughts of making him uneasy. It
“ was impossible to conceal her Folly
“ long, and she could by no means bring
“ herself to disclose it. The alteration of
“ her Behaviour, which from the most
“ lively Chearfulness, grew into a settled
“ Melancholy, with her pale and de-
“ jected Countenance, made the poor old

“ Man fear she was going into a Con-
“ sumption. He was always enquiring
“ what was the matter with her ; he per-
“ ceived whenever he spoke to her, on
“ that Subject, the Tears rising in her
“ Eyes, and that she was hardly able to
“ give him an Answer. At last, by con-
“ tinual Importunities, he got from her
“ the whole Truth. What Words can
“ describe his Distress when he heard it !
“ His Thoughts were so confused, and
“ his Amazement so great, it was some
“ time before he could utter his Words.
“ She stood pale and trembling before
“ him, without Power to speak, till at
“ last she fainted away. He then caught
“ her in his Arms, cried out for Help,
“ and the Moment she began to recover,
“ welcomed her to returning Life, not in
“ Passion and Reproaches, but in all the
“ most endearing Expressions the most
“ tender Love could suggest. He assu-
“ red her, he never would upbraid her ;
“ that all his Resentment should fall on
“ the proper Object, *i. e.* the Villain who
“ had imposed on her soft artless Temper,
“ to both their Ruins. He wondered
“ what could induce the Wretch to so
“ much Baseness, since if he had asked
“ her in Marriage, as she was fond of
“ him,

“ him, there was nothing he would not
“ have done to have made her easy.
“ Nay, said he, with Tears bursting from
“ his aged Eyes, I should have had an
“ additional Pleasure in contributing to
“ the Happiness of that Man who hath
“ now so barbarously destroyed all the
“ Comfort I proposed in my Decline of
“ Life, and hath undone me, and my
“ poor only Girl.

“ THIS Excess of Goodness was
“ more fatal to the wretched young Crea-
“ ture, than if he had behaved as most
“ Fathers do in the like Case ; who,
“ when they find their Vanity disap-
“ pointed, and despair of seeing their
“ Daughters married to advantage, fall
“ into a violent Rage, and turn them out
“ of doors : for this uncommon Behavi-
“ our of his, quite overcame her, she
“ fell from one fainting Fit to another,
“ and lived but three Days. During all
“ which time, she would never let her
“ Father stir from her, and all she said,
“ was to beg him to be comforted, to
“ forget and drive her out of his Me-
“ mory. On this Occasion she exerted
“ an uncommon height of Generosity ;
“ for by exaggerating her own Fault, she

“ endeavoured to draw his Mind from
 “ contemplating her former Behaviour,
 “ and all those little Scenes, in which, by
 “ the utmost Duty and Tendernefs, she
 “ had fo often drawn Tears of Joy from
 “ her then happy Father : but the
 “ Thoughts of his Goodnefs to her over-
 “ whelm’d her Soul ; the Apprehension
 “ that ever she had been the Cause of fo
 “ much Grief to him, was worfe than
 “ ten thousand Deaths to her ; all the
 “ reft she could have borne with Pati-
 “ ence, but the Confideration of what
 “ she had brought on him (the beft of
 “ Fathers) was more than Nature could
 “ fupport.

“ THE poor Man ftifled his Groans
 “ while she could hear them, for fear of
 “ hurting her ; but the Moment she was
 “ gone, he tore his Hair, beat his Breast,
 “ and fell into fuch Agonies, as is im-
 “ poffible to describe. So I fhall follow
 “ the Example of the Painter, who drew
 “ a Veil before *Agamemnon*’s Face, when
 “ his Daughter was facrificed, despair-
 “ ing from the utmost Stretch of his Art,
 “ to paint any Countenance that could
 “ exprefs all that Nature muft feel on fuch
 “ a dreadful Occafion : I fhall leave to
 “ your own Imagination to represent
 “ what

“ what he suffered ; and only tell you,
“ it was so much, that his Life and Mi-
“ sery soon ended together.”

HERE Mr. *Orgueil* stopped, seeing poor *David* could hear no more, not being able to stifle his Sighs and Tears, at the Idea of such a Scene ; for he did not think it beneath a Man to cry from Tenderness, tho’ he would have thought it much too effeminate to be moved to Tears by any Accident that concerned himself only.

As soon as he could recover enough to speak, he cried out, “ Good God ! is
“ this a World for me to look for Hap-
“ piness in, when those very Men, who
“ seem to be the Favourites of Nature ;
“ in forming whom, she has taken such
“ particular Care to give them every
“ thing agreeable, can be guilty of such
“ Crimes as make them a Disgrace to the
“ Species they are born of ! What could
“ incite a Man to such monstrous Ingrat-
“ titude ! there was no Circumstance to
“ alleviate his Villany ; for if his Passion
“ was violent, he might have married
“ her.” “ Yes, (answered, Mr. *Orgueil*)
“ but that was not his Scheme, he was
“ ambitious, and thought marrying so
“ young

“ young would have spoiled his Fortune,
 “ he could not expect with this poor
 “ Creature above fifteen hundred Pounds
 “ at first : He did not know how long
 “ the Father might live, and he did not
 “ doubt, but when he had been some
 “ time in the World, he might meet
 “ with Women equally agreeable, and
 “ much more to his Advantage.” “ Well,
 “ (replied *David*) and is this Man re-
 “ spected in the World ? Will Men con-
 “ verse with him ? Should he not be
 “ drove from Society, and a mark set
 “ upon him, that he might be shunned
 “ and despised ? He certainly is one of
 “ the agreeablest Creatures I ever saw ;
 “ but I had rather spend my time with
 “ the greatest Fool in Nature, provided
 “ he was an honest Man, than with such
 “ a Wretch.” “ Oh, Sir, (says the
 other) “ by that time you have conversed
 “ in the World as long as I have, you
 “ will find, while a Man can support
 “ himself like a Gentleman, and has
 “ Parts sufficient to contribute to the En-
 “ tertainment of Mankind, his Compa-
 “ ny will be courted, where Poverty
 “ and Merit will not be admitted. Every
 “ one knows who can entertain them
 “ best, but few People are Judges of
 “ Merit. He has succeeded in his De-
 “ signs ;

Chap. 9. of DAVID SIMPLE. III

“ signs ; for he has married a Woman
“ immensely rich.” At this, *David* was
more astonished than ever ; and asked, if
his Wife knew the Story he had just told
him. “ Yes, (says he) I knew a Gentle-
“ man, her Friend, who told her of it
“ before she was married : And all the
“ Answer she made was, *Truly, if Wo-*
“ *men would be such Fools to put them-*
“ *selves in Men’s power, it was their own*
“ *Fault, and good enough for them ; she*
“ *was sure he would not use a virtuous*
“ *Woman ill, and she did not doubt but her*
“ *Conduct would make him behave well.*
“ In short, she was fond of him, and
“ would have him. He keeps an Equi-
“ page, and is liked by all his Acquain-
“ tance. This Story is not known to
“ every body, and amongst those who
“ have heard it, they are so inclined to
“ love him, that while they are with
“ him, they can believe nothing against
“ him : No wonder he could impose on
“ a young unexperienced Creature, when
“ I have known him impose on Men of
“ the best Sense.”

DAVID could not bear the Thought,
that any body’s Wit and Parts should
have power enough to make the World
forget they were Villains ; and lamented
to

to his Friend, that whoever was capable of giving pleasure, should not also have Goodness. “ Why, really Sir, (says “ Mr. *Orgueil*) in my Observations on “ the World, I have remarked, that “ good Heads and good Hearts general- “ ly go together ; but they are not inse- “ parable Companions, of which I have “ already given you three Instances, and “ have one more, in the other Gentle- “ man, who was with us last Night, tho’ “ it is impossible to equal the last Story.

“ PERHAPS, Sir, you would think it “ very unnatural that a Person, with his “ Understanding, should have all his “ good Qualities swallowed up and over- “ run with the most egregious Vanity ; “ you see he is very handsome, and to “ his Beauty are owing all his Faults. I “ often think he manages the Gifts in “ which Nature has been so liberal to “ him, with just the same Wisdom as a “ Farmer would do, who should bestow “ all his Time and Labour on a little “ Flower-Garden, placing his whole De- “ light in the various Colours, and fra- “ grant Smells he there enjoyed, and “ leave all the rich Fields, which with “ a small Care would produce real Bene- “ fits, uncultivated and neglected. So “ this

Chap. 9. of DAVID SIMPLE. 113

“ this Gentleman’s Mind, if he thought
“ it worth his Notice, is capable of ren-
“ dering him a useful Member of So-
“ ciety ; but his whole Pleasure is in a-
“ dorning his Person, and making Con-
“ quests. You could observe nothing of
“ this, because there were no Women
“ amongst us ; but if there had, you
“ would have seen him fall into such ri-
“ diculous Tosses of his Person, and
“ foolish Coquetries, as would be barely
“ excusable in a handsome Girl of Fifteen.
“ He was thrown very young upon the
“ Town, where he met with such a Re-
“ ception wherever he went, and was so
“ much admired for his Beauty, even by
“ Ladies in the highest Station, that his
“ Head was quite turned with it. You
“ will think, perhaps, these are such
“ trifling Frailties, after what I have al-
“ ready told you of the others, they
“ hardly deserve to be mentioned ; but
“ if you will consider a moment, you
“ will find, that this Man’s Vanity pro-
“ duces as many real Evils, as Ill-nature,
“ or the most cruel Dispositions could
“ do. For there are very few Families,
“ where he has ever been acquainted,
“ in which there is not at least one Per-
“ son, and sometimes more, unhappy on
“ his account. As the Welfare and Hap-
“ piness.

“ piness of most Families depend in a
 “ great measure on Women, to go a-
 “ bout endeavouring to destroy their
 “ Peace of Mind, and raise such Passions
 “ in them, as render them incapable of
 “ being either of Use or Comfort to
 “ their Friends, is really taking a plea-
 “ sure in a general Destruction. And I
 “ myself know at this present time seve-
 “ ral young Ladies, formerly the Com-
 “ fort and Joy of their Parents, and
 “ the Delight of all their Compa-
 “ nions, who are become, from a short
 “ Acquaintance with this Spark, negli-
 “ gent of every thing; their Tempers
 “ are changed from Good-humour and
 “ Liveliness, to Peevishness and Insipi-
 “ dity, each of them languishing away
 “ her days in fruitless Hopes, and chi-
 “ merical Fancies, that her superiour
 “ Merit will at last fix him her own.

“ IN one House there are three Sisters
 “ so much in love with him, that from
 “ being very good Friends, and leading
 “ the most amicable Life together, they
 “ are become such inveterate Enemies,
 “ that they cannot refrain, even in Com-
 “ pany, from throwing out sly Invectives
 “ and spiteful Reproaches at one ano-
 “ ther. I know one Lady of Fashion,
 “ who

Chap. 9. of DAVID SIMPLE. 115

“ who has no Fault but an unconquer-
“ able Passion for this Gentleman, and
“ having too much Honour to give
“ her Person to one Man, while ano-
“ ther has her Affections, has refused
“ several good Matches, pines herself
“ away, and falls a perfect Sacrifice to
“ his Vanity. And yet this Man, in
“ all his Dealings with Men, acts with
“ Honour and Good-nature. It appears
“ very strange to me, that any one who
“ would scruple a Murder, can without
“ regret take pains to rack People’s
“ Minds. His Character is very well
“ known, yet he is not the less, nay, I
“ think, he is the more liked ; for whe-
“ ther it arises from the Hopes of gain-
“ ing a Prize that is sighed for by all
“ the rest, or from thinking they stand
“ excused, for not resisting the Arts of
“ the Man who is generally allowed to
“ be irresistible, or what is the Reason I
“ cannot tell ; but I have observed the
“ Man who is reported to have done
“ most mischief, is received with most
“ Kindness by the Women. I suppose,
“ I need not bid you remember in what
“ sprightly and polite Expressions, he
“ ridiculed that very sort of Vanity,
“ which, from what I have just now
“ related,

“ related, it is plain he has a great share
 “ of himself.”

DAVID said, “ That was the very
 “ Remark which had just occurred to
 “ himself ; and he found, by all his Sto-
 “ ries, every one of the Company expressed
 “ the greatest Aversion for the Vices they
 “ were more particularly guilty of.”
 “ Yes, says Mr. *Orgueil*, ever since I
 “ have known any thing of the World,
 “ I have always observed that to be the
 “ case ; inſomuch that whenever I hear
 “ a Man expreſs an uncommon Detesta-
 “ tion of any one criminal Action,
 “ I always ſuſpect he is guilty of it
 “ himſelf. It is what I have often re-
 “ flected on ; and I believe Men think,
 “ by exclaiming againſt any particular
 “ Vice, to blind the World, and make
 “ them imagine it impoſſible they ſhould
 “ have a Fault, againſt which all their
 “ Satire ſeems to be pointed : Or perhaps,
 “ as moſt Men take a great deal of pains
 “ to flatter themſelves, they continually
 “ endeavour, by giving things falſe
 “ Names, to impoſe on their own Un-
 “ derſtandings ; till at laſt they prevail
 “ ſo far with their *own Good-nature*, as
 “ to think they are entirely exempt from
 “ thoſe very Failings they are moſt ad-
 “ dicted

“dicted to. But still there remains some
 “Suspicion, that other People, who are
 “not capable of *distinguishing things so*
 “*nicely*, will think they have those Faults,
 “of which their Actions give such strong
 “Indications. Therefore they resolve to
 “try, if a few Words, which do not
 “cost them much, will clear them in the
 “Opinion of the World. To say the
 “Truth, People with a lively Imagina-
 “tion, and a strong Resolution, may al-
 “most persuade themselves of any thing.

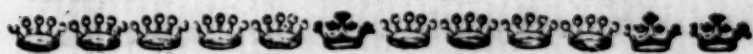
“I REMEMBER a Man very fond of
 “a Woman, whose Person had no Fault
 “to be found with it, but a coarse red
 “Hand: He at first chose to compli-
 “ment her on that Part which was most
 “defective, from a Knowledge of Na-
 “ture, that nothing pleases so much, as
 “to find Blemishes turn’d into Beauties.
 “He persisted in this so long, that at
 “last he really thought she had the finest
 “white Hand that ever was seen; but
 “still there remain’d a Suspicion in his
 “Mind, from a faint Remembrance of
 “what he had once thought himself, that
 “others might not think so. Therefore
 “he was continually averring to all Peo-
 “ple, he never saw so beautiful a Hand
 “in his Life. The Woman, whose Un-
 “derstanding

“ derstanding would have been found
 “ light in the Scale, if weighed against a
 “ Feather, was foolish enough to be
 “ pleas’d with it ; and, instead of trying
 “ to hide from Sight, as she used to do,
 “ what really seemed too ugly to belong
 “ to the rest of her Person, forgot all
 “ her Beauties ; and had no Pleasure,
 “ but in displaying, as much as possible,
 “ before every Company, what she was
 “ now convinced was so deservedly the
 “ Object of Admiration. They carried
 “ this to such a ridiculous Height, that
 “ they became a perfect Proverb : and
 “ she was called, by way of derision, the
 “ *White-banded Queen.*”

MR. *Orgueil* was now quite exhausted
 with giving so many various Characters ;
 and I think it full time to conclude this
 long Chapter.



C H A P.



CH A P. X.

Which teacheth Mankind a true, and easy Method of serving their Friends.

AFTER Dinner, Mr. Orgueil proposed going to the new Play, which he heard had made a great Noise in the Town. David said, he would accompany him wherever he went, but it was what he had hitherto avoided; from hearing that those who either approved or disapproved the Performance, generally made such a Noise, that it was impossible not to lose great Part of the Play. “That is very true, replied Mr. Orgueil, but I go on purpose to make Observations on the Humours of Mankind; for, as all the Criticks commonly go from Taverns, Nature breaks out, and shews herself, without that Disguise which People put on in their cooler Hours.”

ON these Considerations they agreed to go, and at half an Hour past Four they were placed in the Pit; the Uproar was begun, and they were surrounded every way

way with such a variety of Noises, that it seemed as if the whole Audience was met by way of Emulation, to try who could make the greatest. *David* asked his Friend, what could be the Meaning of all this ; for he supposed they could be neither *condemning*, nor *applauding the Play*, before it was begun. Mr. *Orgueil* told him, the Author's Friends and Enemies were now shewing what Parties they had gathered together, in order to intimidate each other.

DAVID could not forbear enquiring what could induce so many People to shew such an Eagerness against a Man or his Performance, before they knew what it was : And, on being told by *Orgueil* it was chiefly owing to Envy and Anger at another's Superiority of Parts ; for that every Man who is talked of in the World for any Perfection, must have numberless Enemies, whom he does not suspect ; he could refrain no longer, but burst into the most pathetick Lamentation on the Miseries of Mankind, that People could rise to that height of Malignity, as to bring Spite and Envy with them into their very Diversions. He thought when Men were met together, to relax their
Minds,

Minds, and unbend their Cares, all was calm within, and every one endeavour'd to raise his Pleasures as high as possible, by a benevolent Consideration, that all present were enjoying the same Delights with himself. He told his Friend, he now should have one Enjoyment less than ever he had; for he used to love publick Assemblies, because there People generally put on their most chearful Countenances, and seem'd as if they were free from every malicious and uneasy Thought; but if what he had told him was true, he could consider them as nothing but painted Outsides, while within they were full of rancorous Poison.

MR. *Orgueil* said, “ There were yet
 “ another sort of People, who contri-
 “ buted to the damning of Plays, which
 “ were a Set of idle young Fellows, who
 “ came there on purpose to make a
 “ noise, without any Dislike to the Au-
 “ thor, for few of them knew him; and
 “ as to the Play, they never hearkned to
 “ it, but only out of wantonness they hap-
 “ pened to have said it should not be acted
 “ a second Night; and, as Fools are gene-
 “ rally stubborn, they are resolved not to be

“overcome.” Just as he had spoke these Words, the Curtain drew up, and the Play began.

THE first Act went on very quietly; at which *David* expressed his Satisfaction, hoping to hear it out without any Disturbance. But his Friend knew to the contrary, and informed him, the more silent the Damners were now, the more Noise they would soon make; for that was only their Cunning, that they might not appear to have come there on purpose to condemn the Play. The second Act passed also with only a few Contentions between Claps and Hisses; but in the third the Tumult grew much louder, and the Noise increased; *Whistles,—Cat-calls, Groans,—Hollowing,—beating with Sticks,—and clapping with Hands*, made such a hideous *Din*, and Confusion of Sounds, as no one can have any Idea of, who has not had the happiness to hear it. In short, the third Act was with great difficulty got through; but in the fourth the Noise began again, and continued with heroick Resolution for some time on both sides: but, as *Enemies* generally stick longer by People than *Friends*, the latter were first worn out, and forced to yield

yield to their Antagonists. The Words *Horrid Stuff—Was ever such Nonsense! — Bad Plot! &c.*—were re-echoed throughout the House, for a considerable time: and thus the Play was condemned to eternal Oblivion, without having ever been heard; and the Author was forced to go without his Benefit, which, it is more than probable, would have been of great use to him, as well as many others, *who had not failed in their Attendance on him once a Week for a long time.*

As soon as the hurry was a little over, a Gentleman who had sat near them the whole Time, began to talk to them about the Play: he said, “ He was very sorry
 “ that it was impossible for any body of
 “ Common Sense to appear in the im-
 “ posing such horrid Nonsense on the
 “ Town; *for he was the Author’s Friend,*
 “ *and should have been glad if he could*
 “ *have got any thing by it;* as, at this
 “ time, he knew it would have been very
 “ acceptable to him.” David could not
 forbear saying; “ Indeed, Sir, I took
 “ you rather for a great Enemy of his;
 “ for I observed you making use of all
 “ the Methods possible that it might not
 “ be heard.” “ Yes, Sir, answered the
 G 2 other,

other, " that was, because, as I am his
 " Friend, and found it was very bad, I
 " was unwilling he should be exposed;
 " besides, I hoped, by the Mortification
 " this would give him, to prevent his
 " ever attempting to appear again in this
 " manner; for he is a very good-natured
 " Fellow, a good Companion, and a
 " Friend of mine; *but, between you and*
 " *I, he cannot write at all."*

As soon as this *friendly Creature* left them, Mr. *Orgueil* observed to *David*, how strong a Proof this was, of the Truth of what he had told him before; for he himself had been a witness once, tho' he found he had forgot him, of this Gentleman's attempting to rally the Author before a Room full of Company; but his getting the better of him, and having always the Laugh on his side, had made him *envious* of him ever since. On this Subject Mr. *Orgueil* and *David* discoursed all the way home, where, when they arrived, being worn out with Hurry and Noise, they retired immediately to Bed; where I will leave them to take their Repose.



CHAP. XI.

*Which contains some strong Intimations,
that the Human Mind is not always
totally exempt from Pride.*

THE next Day passed without any Occurrence worth mentioning, when in the Evening Mr. Orgueil perceiving his Friend to be very melancholy, did all he could to make him throw off the Thoughts which disturbed him; telling him, it was in vain to sigh for what it was impossible for him to remedy. That it was much better to be the laughing than weeping Philosopher. That for his part, the Follies and Vices of Mankind were his Amusements, and gave him such ridiculous Ideas, as were a continual Fund of Entertainment to him. David replied, " He could never think " it a matter of Jest, to find himself " surrounded by Beasts of Prey; and " that it differed little into which of their " voracious Jaws he fell, as they were all " equally desirous of pulling him to " pieces." He went on remarking, that if Beauty, Wit, Goodness, or any thing

which is justly the Object of Admiration and Love, can subject the Possessors of them to the Envy, and consequently Hatred of Mankind, then nothing but *Knavery, Folly, and Deformity* can be beloved; or at least whoever is remarkable for either of the last mentioned Qualities, must be the only People who can pass thro' the World without any body's wishing to hurt them, and that only because they are thought *low* enough already.—

What you told me yesterday, together with the Scenes I was witness to, has made such a deep Impression on me, I shall not easily recover it. I was very much surprized to hear you tell that Story of the old Man and his Daughter with dry Eyes, and quite unmoved. Mr. *Orgueil* smiled, and said, “ I look upon Compassion, Sir, to be
 “ a very great Weakness; I have no Superstition to fright me into my Duty,
 “ but I do what I think just by all the
 “ World; for the real Love of *Requitute*
 “ is the Motive of all my Actions. If I
 “ could be moved by a Compassion in my
 “ Temper to relieve another, the *Merit*
 “ of it would be entirely lost, because it
 “ would be done chiefly to please myself:
 “ But when I do for any one, what they
 “ have a Right to demand from me, by
 the

“ the Laws of Society and right Reason,
 “ then it becomes *real Virtue*, and
 “ *sound Wisdom.*” David was amazed
 at this Doctrine, he knew not what to
 answer; but it being late, took his leave,
 and went to bed, with a Resolution to
 consider and examine more narrowly into
 it: for tho’ it appeared to him very ab-
 surd, yet, as it was a Subject he had ne-
 ver thought of, he would not condemn
 what he could not hastily refute.

HIS Head was so crouded with *Ideas*,
 he could sleep but little; he began to be
 frighten’d, lest he should have no more
 reason to esteem Mr. *Orgueil* than the rest
 of his Acquaintance, when he thoroughly
 knew him. However, he got up the
 next Morning, with a design of entering
 into a Conversation, that might give him
 more light into his Friend’s Mind and
 Disposition. He found him at Breakfast
 with another Gentleman: The moment
 Mr. *Orgueil* saw him, he said, “ he was
 “ very sorry an Affair had happened,
 “ which must oblige them to be apart
 “ that day; but he told him, that Gen-
 “ tleman, whom he before had some
 “ small Acquaintance with, had promised
 “ not to leave him, and he was sure his

“ Company would make Amends for
 “ the loss of any other.” As soon as
 Breakfast was over, Mr. *Orgueil* dressed,
 and went out.

DAVID's Mind was so full of what
 had passed the Night before, that he could
 not forbear communicating his Thoughts
 to his present Companion, and desiring him
 to tell him the meaning of what Mr. *Orgueil*
 had said to him last Night, concerning
Rectitude and *Compassion*. On which the
 other replied, “ he had conversed for
 “ many Years with Mr. *Orgueil*, and had
 “ the greatest Veneration for him at first,
 “ but by continually observing him, he
 “ had at last got into his real Character,
 “ which if he pleased to hear, he would
 “ inform him of.” And on *David*'s as-
 suring him he could not oblige him more,
 he began in the following manner.

“ You are to know, Sir, there are a
 “ Set of Men in the World, who pass
 “ through Life with very good Reputa-
 “ tions, whose Actions are in the gene-
 “ ral justly to be applauded, and yet
 “ upon a near Examination their Princi-
 “ ples are all bad, and their Hearts har-
 “ dened to all tender Sensations. Mr.
 “ *Orgueil*

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“ *Orgueil* is exactly one of those sort of
“ Men ; the greatest Sufferings which
“ can happen to his Fellow-Creatures,
“ have no sort of Effect on him, and yet
“ he very often relieves them ; that is, he
“ goes just as far in serving others, as will
“ give him new Opportunities of flattering
“ himself : for his whole Soul is filled
“ with *Pride*, he has made a *God* of
“ himself, and the Attributes he thinks
“ necessary to the Dignity of *such a*
“ *Being*, he endeavours to have. He
“ calls all Religion Superstition, because
“ he will own no other *Deity* ; he
“ thinks even Obedience to the Divine
“ Will, would be but a mean Motive to
“ his Actions ; he must do *Good*, be-
“ cause it is suitable to the *Dignity of*
“ *his Nature* ; and shun *Evil*, because
“ he would not be debased as low as
“ the *Wretches* he every day sees. When
“ he knows any Man do a dishonourable
“ Action, then he enjoys the height of
“ Pleasure in the Comparison he makes
“ between his own Mind, and that of
“ such a *mean Creature*. He mentally
“ worships himself with Joy and Rap-
“ ture ; and I verily believe, if he lived
“ in a World, where to be vicious
“ was esteemed praise-worthy, the same

“ Pride which now makes him take a
“ delight in doing what is right, (because
“ for that Reason he thinks himself above
“ most of the People he converses with,)
“ would then lead him to abandon him-
“ self to all manner of Vice: for if by
“ taking pains to bridle his Passions, he
“ could gain no Superiority over his
“ Companions, all his *Love of Reſtitution*,
“ *as he calls it*, would fall to the ground.
“ So that his Goodneſs, like cold Fruits,
“ is produced by the Dung and Naſtineſs
“ which ſurround it. He has fixed in his
“ Mind, what he ought to do in all caſes
“ in Life, and is not to be moved to go
“ beyond it. Nothing is more miſerable
“ than to have a Dependance on him; for
“ he makes no Allowance for the ſmalleſt
“ Frailties, and the moment a Perſon
“ exceeds, in the leaſt degree, the bounds
“ his *Wiſdom* has ſet, he abandons them,
“ as he thinks they have no reaſonable
“ claim to any thing farther from him.
“ If he was walking with a Friend
“ on the ſide of a Precipice, and that
“ Friend was to go a ſtep nearer than he
“ adviſed him, and by accident ſhould
“ fall down, altho’ he broke his Bones,
“ and lay in the utmoſt Miſery, he would
“ coolly leave him, without the leaſt
“ thought

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“ thought of any thing for his Relief:
“ Saying, *if Men would be so mad, they*
“ *must take the Consequence of their own*
“ *Folly.* Nay, I question, whether he
“ would not have a secret Satisfaction in
“ thinking, that from *his Wisdom*, he
“ could walk safely through the most
“ dangerous Places, while others fell into
“ them. As polite as you see he can
“ be when he desires to be so, yet
“ when he converses with any whom he
“ thinks greatly beneath him, or who is
“ forced by Circumstances to be any
“ ways obliged to him, he thinks they
“ cannot expect good Breeding; and
“ therefore can be as rude, tho’ in diffe-
“ rent terms, as the most vulgar Wretch
“ in the World. In short, every Action
“ of his is center’d in Pride; and the
“ only Reason he is not perfectly ridicu-
“ lous, is, because he has Sense enough
“ to affect to be quite contrary to what
“ he is. And as you know he has
“ great Parts, and his Manner is very
“ engaging whenever he pleases; very
“ few People really know him.”

“ WHAT then (says David) have I
“ been hugging myself all this time in
“ the thoughts, that I had met with a

“ Man who really deserved my Esteem,
 “ and is it all owing to my Ignorance of
 “ his real Character ? ” “ Yes, Sir,
 “ (answered the Gentleman) I assure you,
 “ what I have told you is all true, and if
 “ you will give yourself the trouble to ob-
 “ serve him narrowly, you will soon be
 “ convinced of it.” *David*, with a Sigh,
 replied, “ he wanted no stronger proof
 “ of the Certainty of it ; for what he
 “ himself said last night, joined to what
 “ he had just now heard, was full Con-
 “ viction enough.” “ I never was so
 “ startled (continued he) in my Life, as
 “ at his saying, he looked upon Com-
 “ passion as a Weakness. Is it possible
 “ that the most amiable Quality human
 “ Nature can be possessed of, should be
 “ treated with Contempt by a Man of
 “ his Understanding ! Or is it all delu-
 “ sion, and am I as much deceived in
 “ his *Sense* as in his *Goodness* ! For sure-
 “ ly nothing but the greatest Folly could
 “ make a Creature, who must every day,
 “ nay, every hour in the day, be con-
 “ scious of a *thousand Failings*, and feel
 “ a *thousand Infirmities*, fancy himself a
 “ *Deity*, and contemplate his own Per-
 “ fections.” “ As to that (says the
 “ Gentleman) when you have seen more
 “ of

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“ of the World, you will find that what
“ is generally called Sense, has very lit-
“ tle to do with what a Man thinks ;
“ where Self is at all concerned, Inclina-
“ tion steps in, and will not give the
“ Judgment fair play, but forces it to
“ wrest and torture the Meaning of every
“ thing to its own purposes. You must
“ know, there are two sorts of Men who
“ are the direct Opposites to each other ;
“ the one sort, like Mr. *Orgueil*, live in
“ a continual war with their Passions,
“ subdue their Appetites, and act up to
“ whatever they think right ; they make
“ it their business in all Companies, to
“ exalt the Dignity of human Nature as
“ high as they can ; that is, to prove
“ Men are capable, if it was not their
“ own fault, of arriving to a great de-
“ gree of Perfection, which they heartily
“ consent every one should believe *they*
“ *themselves* have done. The others give
“ way to every Temptation, make it
“ their whole business to indulge them-
“ selves, without any Consideration who
“ are Sufferers by it, or what Conse-
“ quences attend it : and as they are re-
“ solved to pull others down as low as
“ themselves, they fall to abusing the
“ whole Species without any distinction,
“ assert

“ assert in all their Conversations, that
 “ human Nature is a Sink of Iniquity;
 “ every good Action they hear of ano-
 “ ther, they impute to some bad Motive;
 “ and the only difference they allow to
 “ be in Men is, that some have Art and
 “ Hypocrisy enough, to hide from un-
 “ discerning Eyes, the Blackness that is
 “ within. In short, they know they can-
 “ not be esteemed, and therefore cannot
 “ bear another should enjoy what they
 “ either can’t or won’t take the pains to
 “ attain.

“ THUS there is no end of their Ar-
 “ guments, which may be all summed
 “ up in a very few Words: For the one
 “ sort only contend, that they them-
 “ selves may be allowed to be perfect, and
 “ therefore that it is possible: And the
 “ other, as they know themselves to be
 “ good for nothing, modestly desire, that
 “ for their sakes, you will be so kind as to
 “ suffer all Mankind to appear in the same
 “ light; whence you are to conclude, that
 “ their Faults are owing to Nature; they
 “ cannot help it. They have, indeed, some
 “ little Pleasure in reflecting, that they
 “ have this Superiority over others, that
 “ while they endeavour to deceive People,
 “ and

“ and impose on their Understandings,
 “ they claim this Merit, that they own
 “ themselves as bad as they are: that is,
 “ utterly void of every Virtue, and pos-
 “ sessed of every Vice.”

DAVID stood amazed at this Discourse, and cried out, “ I am come to
 “ the utmost despair, if these are the
 “ ways of Mankind, not to endeavour
 “ to be what really deserves Esteem, but
 “ only by Fallacy and Arts to impose on
 “ others, and flatter themselves, where
 “ shall I hope to find what I am in search
 “ of?” “ And pray, Sir, (said the
 “ other) if it is not *impertinent* to ask,
 “ What is it that you are seeking?”
 David answered, “ It was a Person who
 “ could be trusted, one who was capa-
 “ ble of being a real Friend; whose every
 “ Action proceeded either from Obedi-
 “ ence to the *Divine Will*, or from the De-
 “ light he took in doing good; who could
 “ not see another’s Sufferings without
 “ Pain, nor his Pleasures without sharing
 “ them. In short, one whose Agreeableness
 “ sway’d his Inclination to love him, and
 “ whose Mind was so good, he could never
 “ blame himself for so doing.” The
 Gentleman smiled, and said, “ I don’t
 “ doubt,

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“doubt, Sir, but if you live any time,
 “you will find out the *Philosopher’s*
 “*Stone*; for that certainly will be your
 “next Search, when you have found
 “what you are now *seeking*.” *David*
 thought he was mad, to make a Jest of
 what to him appeared so serious, and told
 him, “notwithstanding his laughing, if
 “ever he did attain to what he was in
 “pursuit of, he should be the *happiest*
 “*Creature* in the World. Indeed, he
 “must confess he had hitherto met with
 “no great Encouragement. However,
 “he was resolved to proceed; and if he
 “was disappointed at last, he could but
 “retire from the World, and live by him-
 “self: As he was mistaken in Mr. Or-
 “gueil, he would not stay to converse
 “any longer with him, but remove that
 “very Day to another Lodging.”

MR. *Spatter*, (for that was this Gen-
 tleman’s Name,) seeing him so obsti-
 nate in his purpose, thought it would
 be no ill Scheme to accompany him, for
 a little while, by way of Diversion. He
 therefore said, “If it would be agreeable
 “to him, he might lodge in the same
 “House with him, in *Pall-Mall*.” *Da-*
vid readily agreed to it; and they only
 staid

staid till Mr. Orgueil came home, that he might take his leave of him: For it was his Method, whenever he found out any thing he thought despicable, in a Person he had esteemed, quietly to avoid him as much as possible for the future. He therefore took his leave of Mr. Orgueil, and set out with his new Acquaintance, to view another Scene of Life; for the Manner of living of the Inhabitants of every different part of this great Metropolis, varies as much as that of different Nations.

The End of the first BOOK.



THE



THE
ADVENTURES
OF
DAVID SIMPLE.

BOOK II.

CHAP. I.

Which is writ only with a View to instruct our Readers, that Whist is a Game very much in Fashion.

DAVID's next Scheme was, to converse amongst People in *High Life*, and try if their *Minds* were as refined, as the Education and Opportunities they had of improving themselves, gave him hopes of. But then, as he had never lived at that end of the Town before, kept no Equipage, and was besides a very modest Man, he was under some difficulty how to get Introduction to Persons of Fashion. Mr. Spatter told him, "he need be in no pain on that account,"

“ count, for that he frequented all the
 “ Assemblies, and kept the best Com-
 “ pany in Town, and he would carry him
 “ wherever he went. He told him he had
 “ nothing to do, but to get a fine Coat,
 “ a well-powdered Wig, and a *Whist-*
 “ *Book*, and he would soon be invited to
 “ more *Routs* than he would be able to
 “ go to.” “ And, pray Sir, said *David*,
 “ What do you mean by a *Whist-Book* ?
 “ It is a Game I have often played, to
 “ pass away a Winter-Evening, but I
 “ don’t find any Necessity of a Book to
 “ learn it.” “ Why, really Sir, replied
 “ *Spatter*, I cannot tell what use it is of,
 “ but I know it is a Fashion to have it,
 “ and no one is qualified for the Conver-
 “ sation in *Vogue* without it. Though I
 “ can’t but say, I have known several
 “ People, especially among the Ladies,
 “ who used to play tolerably well ; but
 “ since they have set themselves to learn
 “ by Book, are so puzzled, they cannot
 “ tell how to play a Card. Not but this
 “ Book is, they say, excellently well writ,
 “ and contains every Rule necessary to the
 “ understanding the Game : but as a
 “ Traveller, who is ignorant of the Coun-
 “ try he passes through, is the most per-
 “ plexed where he finds the greatest va-
 “ riety of Roads ; so a weak Head is the
 “ most

“ most distracted, and the least able to
 “ pursue any point in view, where it en-
 “ deavours to get many Rules, and com-
 “ prehend various Things at once.

“ BUT as to the *Routs*, I can give
 “ you no other account of them, than
 “ that it is the genteel Name for the As-
 “ semblies that meet at private Houses
 “ to win, or lose Money at Whist. The
 “ Method pursued to gather these Com-
 “ panies together is, that the Lady of the
 “ House where the *Rout* is to be held, a
 “ Fortnight or three Weeks before the
 “ intended Day, dispatches a Messenger
 “ to every Person designed to be there,
 “ with a few magick Words properly
 “ placed on a Card, which infallibly brings
 “ every one at the appointed Time : but
 “ if by chance, notwithstanding the Care
 “ that is taken of sending so long before-
 “ hand, two of these Cards should hap-
 “ pen to interfere, and the same Person
 “ be under a necessity of being at *two Pla-*
 “ *ces at once* ; the best Expedient to be
 “ found out is, to play a *Rubbers* at one
 “ place, and then drive their Horses to
 “ death, to get to the other time enough
 “ not to disappoint their *Friends*. For
 “ you must know, every Lady looks on
 “ herself as in the highest Distress, who
 “ has

“ has not as many Tables at her House
 “ as any of her Acquaintance.” But says
David, “ I don’t see how this will at all
 “ promote my Scheme; for by going
 “ amongst People, who place their whole
 “ Happiness in Gaming, and where there
 “ is no sort of Conversation, how is it
 “ possible I should come at their Senti-
 “ ments, or enter into their Characters.”
 “ Indeed, Sir, replied the other, you was
 “ never more mistaken in your Life, for
 “ People’s Minds, and the Bent of their
 “ Inclination, is no where so much dis-
 “ covered as at a Gaming-Table: for in
 “ Conversation, the real Thoughts are
 “ often disguised; but when the Passions
 “ are actuated, the Mask is thrown off,
 “ and Nature appears as she is. I could
 “ carry you into several Companies, where
 “ you should see very pretty young Wo-
 “ men, whose Features are of such exact
 “ Proportion, and in whose Countenances
 “ is displayed such a delightful Harmony,
 “ as you would think to be the strongest
 “ Indication, that every Thought within
 “ was *Peace* and *Gentleness*, and that
 “ their Breasts were all *Softness*, and
 “ *Good-nature*. Yet but follow them
 “ to one of these Assemblies, and in half
 “ an hour’s time you shall see all their
 “ Beauty

“ Beauty vanish ; those Features, with
 “ which you were so charmed before, all
 “ distorted, and in confusion ; and that
 “ Harmony of Countenance, which could
 “ never be enough admired, converted
 “ into an Eagerness and Fierceness,
 “ which plainly prove the whole Soul to
 “ be discomposed, and filled with Tumult
 “ and Anxiety ; and all this perhaps only
 “ from a desire of getting *Jewels* some-
 “ thing *finer* than they could otherwise
 “ procure, and in order to surpass some
 “ Lady who had just bought a *new Set*.
 “ Besides, I can give you the Character of
 “ most of the People where we shall go,
 “ and that will be an Entertainment to
 “ us every Night, at our return home.”

DAVID thanked him for his Offer ;
 and they agreed to set out every Day to
 different Houses, in order to make Ob-
 servations. The first Assembly they went
 to, there were ten Tables at Whist, and
 at each of them the Competitors seemed
 to lay as great a stress on either their
 Victory, or Defeat, as if the whole Hap-
 piness of their Lives depended on it.

DAVID walked from one to the other,
 to make what Observations he could ; but
 he

he found they were all alike. Joy sparkled in the Eyes of all the Conquerors, and black Despair seemed to surround all the Vanquished. Those very People, who, before they sat down to play, conversed with each other in a strain so polite and well-bred, that an *unexperienced* Man would have thought the greatest Pleasure they could have had, would have been in serving each other, were in a moment turned into *Enemies*, and the winning of a Guinea, or perhaps five, (according to the Sum played for) was the only Idea that possessed the Minds of a whole Company of People, none of whom were in any manner of want of it.

THIS was a melancholy Prospect for poor *David*; for nothing could be a stronger Proof of the selfish and mercenary Tempers of Mankind, than to see those People, whom Fortune had placed in Affluence, as desirous of gaining from each other, as if they really could not have had Necessaries without it.

THE two Gentlemen staid till they were heartily weary, and then retired to spend the rest of the Evening together at a Tavern; where the whole Conversation turned

turned on what they had seen at the Assembly. *David* asked his Companion, if this was the manner in which People, who have it in their power to spend their Time as they pleased, choose to employ it. "Yes, Sir, answered Mr. *Spatter*, "I assure you, I have very few Acquaintance at this end of the Town, who seem to be *born* for any other purpose but to play at *Whist*, or who have any use for more *Understanding* than what serves to that End." He then run through the Characters of the whole Company, and at the finishing of every one, uttered a Sentence with some Vehemence, (which was a Manner peculiar to himself) calling them either *Fools* or *Knaves*; but as he had a great deal of Wit, he did this in so entertaining a way, that *David* could not help laughing sometimes, though he checked himself for it; thinking the *Faults* or *Follies* of Mankind were not the proper Objects of Mirth.

THE next Morning Mr. *Spatter* carried him to the Toilette of one of the Ladies, who was of the Whist-Party the Night before, where great part of the Company were met. There was not one single Syllable spoke of any thing but Cards; the whole

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whole Scene of the foregoing Night was played over again, who lost, — or won ; — who played well, — or ill : — In short, there was nothing talked of, that can be either remembered, or repeated.

DAVID led this Life for about a Week, in the Morning at Toilettes, the Evening at Cards, and at Night with Mr. Spatter, who constantly pulled to pieces, ridiculed, and abused all the People they had been with the Day before. He told him Stories of Ladies, who were married by Men infinitely their Superiors, who raised their Fortunes, indulged them in every thing they could wish, where wholly taken up in contemplating their Charms, and yet were neglected and slighted by them, who would abandon every thing that can be thought most valuable, rather than lose one Evening playing at their darling Whist.

DAVID was soon tired of this manner of Life, in which he saw no hopes of finding what he was in Search of, and in which there was no Variety, for the Desire of winning seemed to be the only thing thought on by every body ; he observed to his Companion here and there a

Person who played quite carelessly, and did not appear to trouble themselves whether they won or lost. These Mr. *Spatter* told him, were a sort of People, who had no pleasure in Life, but in being with People of Quality, and in telling their Acquaintance, they were such a Night at the Dutchess of———another time at the Countess of———and although they do not love play themselves, yet as they find it the easiest Passport into that Company where their whole Happiness is center'd, they think it a small Price to pay, for what they esteem so valuable. But added he, the worst of it is, some of them cannot afford to play, but sacrifice that Fortune to nothing but the Vanity of appearing with the Great, which would procure them every thing essentially necessary in their own Sphere of Life.

Thus was *David* again disappointed ; for he had entertained some Hopes, that those few People in whom he had seen a Calmness at Play, were disinterested, and had that contempt for Money, which he esteemed necessary to make a good Character ; but when he found it arose from so mean a Vanity, he could not help thinking them the most despicable of all Mortals.

tals. “ I do assure you, says *Spatter*, I
 “ have known People spend their whole
 “ time in the most servile Compliances,
 “ for no other Reason, but to have the
 “ Words *Lordship*, and *Ladyship*, often
 “ in their Mouths, and who measure their
 “ *Happiness* and *Misery* every Night, by
 “ the number of People of Quality they
 “ had spoke to that Day. But as your
 “ Curiosity seems to be fully satisfied
 “ with what you have seen of the Whist-
 “ players, I will carry you to-morrow
 “ into a Set of Company, who have an
 “ utter Contempt for Cards, and whose
 “ whole Pleasure is in *Conversation*. ”

DAVID thanked him, approved of what he said, and they separated that Night with a Resolution of changing the Scene next Day. And I believe my Reader, as well as myself, is heartily glad to quit a Subject so extremely barren of Matter, as that of Gaming; and into which I would not have entered at all, but that it would have been excluding my Hero from one of the *chief Scenes* to be viewed at present in this great Town.



C H A P. II.

Which contains a Conversation, in which is proved, how high Taste may be carried by People who have fixed Resolutions of being Criticks.

WHEN *David* was alone, he began to reflect with himself, what could be the meaning that *Mr. Spatter* seemed to take such a Delight in *abusing* People ; and yet as he observed, no one was more willing to oblige any Person, who stood in need of his Assistance : he concluded that he must be good at the Bottom, and that perhaps it was only his *Love of Mankind*, which made him have such a Hatred and Detestation of their Vices, as caused him to be eager in reproaching them ; he therefore resolved to go on with him, till he knew more of his Disposition.

THE next Day they went to visit a Lady, who was reputed to have a great deal of Wit, and was so *generous as to*
let

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let all her Acquaintance partake of it, by omitting no Opportunity of displaying it. There they found assembled a large Company of Ladies, and two or three Gentlemen ; they were all busy in Discourse, but they rose up, paid the usual Compliments, and then proceeded as follows :

First Lady. “ INDEED, Madam, I
“ think you are quite in the right, as to
“ your Opinion of *Othello* ; for nothing
“ provokes me so much, as to see Fools
“ pity a Fellow, who could murder his
“ Wife. For my part, I cannot help ha-
“ ving some Compassion for her, though
“ she does not deserve it, because she
“ was such a Fool as to marry a filthy
“ Black. Pray, did you ever hear any
“ thing like what my Lady True-wit
“ said the other Night, that the Part of
“ the Play which chiefly affected her,
“ was, that which inspired an Apprehen-
“ sion of what that odious Wretch must
“ feel, when he found out that *Desdemo-*
“ *na* was innocent ; as if he could suffer
“ too much, after being guilty of so bar-
“ barous an Action.”

Second Lady. “ INDEED, I am not at
“ all surprized at any thing that Lady
“ True-wit

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“ *True-wit* says ; for I have heard her
 “ assert the most preposterous things in
 “ the World : Nay, she affirms, a Man
 “ may be very fond of a Woman, not-
 “ withstanding he is jealous of her, and
 “ dares suspect her *Virtue*.

Third Lady. “ THAT Lady once said,
 “ that one of the most beautiful Inci-
 “ dents in all *King Lear*, was, that the
 “ Impertinence of his Daughter’s Servant,
 “ was the first Thing that made him
 “ uneasy ; and after that, I think one
 “ can wonder at nothing : For certainly
 “ it was a great Oversight in the Poet,
 “ when he was writing the Character of a
 “ King, to take notice of the Behaviour
 “ of such *vulgar Wretches* ; as if what
 “ they did was any thing to the purpose.
 “ But some People are very fond of turn-
 “ ing the greatest Faults into Beauties,
 “ that they may be thought to have found
 “ out something extraordinary : And then
 “ they must admire every thing in *Shake-*
 “ *spear*, as they think, to prove their
 “ own Judgment : But for my part, I
 “ am not afraid to give *my Opinion*
 “ freely of the greatest Men that ever
 “ wrote.

Fourth

Fourth Lady. THERE is nothing so
 “surprizing to me, as the Absurdity of
 “almost every body I meet with; they
 “can’t even laugh or cry in the right
 “place. Perhaps it will be hardly be-
 “lieved, but I really saw People in the
 “Boxes last Night, at the Tragedy of
 “*Cato*, set with dry Eyes, and show no
 “kind of Emotion, when that *great*
 “*Man* fell on his *Sword*; nor was it
 “at all owing to any *Firmness of Mind*,
 “that made them incapable of crying
 “neither, for that I should have *admi-*
 “*red*. But I have known those very *Peo-*
 “*ple* shed tears at *George Barnwell*.

A good many Ladies speak at one time.
 “OH intolerable! cry for an *odious*
 “*Apprentice-Boy*, who murdered his Un-
 “cle, at the Instigation too of a common
 “Woman, and yet be unmoved, *when*
 “*even Cato bled for his Country*.

Old Lady. “THAT is no Wonder, I
 “assure you Ladies, for I once heard
 “my Lady *Know all*, positively affirm
 “*George Barnwell* to be one of the best
 “Things that ever was wrote; for that
 “Nature is Nature in whatever Station

“ it is placed : And that she could be as
 “ much affected with the Distress of a
 “ Man in *low Life*, as if he was a *Lord*
 “ or a *Duke*. And what is yet more
 “ *amazing*, is, that the Time she chuses
 “ to weep most, is just as he has killed
 “ the Man who prays for him in the
 “ Agonies of Death : And then, only
 “ because he *whines over him*, and
 “ seems sensible of what he has done,
 “ she must shed tears for a *Wretch*,
 “ whom every body of either *Sense* or
 “ *Goodness*, would wish to crush, and
 “ make ten times more miserable than
 “ he is.”

A Lady who had been silent, and was a particular Friend of Lady Know-all's, speaks. “ INDEED that Lady is the most
 “ affected Creature that I ever knew, she
 “ and Lady *True-wit* think no one can
 “ equal them ; they have taken a fancy
 “ to set up the Author of *George Barn-*
 “ *well* for a Writer, tho' certainly he
 “ writes the *worst Language* in the
 “ World : There is a little Thing of his,
 “ called, *The Fatal Curiosity*, which, for
 “ my part, I know not what to make
 “ of ; and they run about crying it up,
 “ as if *Shakespear* himself might have
 “ wrote

“ wrote it. Certainly that Fellow must
 “ be something very *low*, for his Di-
 “ stresses always arise from *Poverty*; and
 “ then he brings his wicked Wretches,
 “ who are to be tempted for Money to
 “ some monstrous Action, which he
 “ would have his Audience pity them
 “ for.”

SHE would have talked on more in
 this Strain, but was interrupted by ano-
 ther Lady, who assured the Company,
 she had the most ridiculous Thing to tell
 them of the two Ladies they were talk-
 ing of, in the World : “ For, (continued
 “ she) I was once at *Don Sebastian* with
 “ them, which is a favourite Play of
 “ their’s ; and they make a great Noise
 “ about the Scene between *Dorax* and
 “ *Sebastian*, in the fourth Act. I ob-
 “ served them more than the Play, to
 “ see in what manner they behaved :
 “ And what do you think they did ?
 “ Why truly, all the time the Two
 “ Friends were quarrelling, they sat, in-
 “ deed, with great Attention, altho’ they
 “ were quite calm ; but the Moment
 “ they were reconciled, and embraced
 “ each other, they both burst into a
 “ Flood of Tears, which they seemed
 H. 5 “ unable

“ unable to restrain. They certainly must
 “ have something very *odd* in their Heads,
 “ and the Author is very much obliged
 “ to them, for grieving most when his
 “ *Hero, Don Sebastian*, had most Reason
 “ to be pleased, in finding a true *Friend*
 “ in the Man he thought his *Enemy*.”

HERE the whole Company fell into a violent Fit of Laughter, and the Word *ridiculous* was the only Sound heard for some time ; and then they fell back again to their Discourse on Authors, in which they were all so desirous to prove their own Judgment, that they would not give one another leave to speak.

AND now, Reader, if ever you have lived in the Country, and heard the Cackling of Geese, or the Gobbling of Turkeys, you may have an Idea something adequate to this Scene ; but if the Town has been mostly your Place of Abode, and you are a Stranger to every rural Scene, what will give you the best Idea of this Conversation is the 'Change at Noon, where every one has a particular Business of his own, but a *Spectator* would find it a very difficult matter to comprehend any thing distinctly. *Addison, Prior, Otway,*
Congreve,

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*Congreve, Dryden, Pope, Shakespear, Tom
Durfey, &c. &c. &c.* were Names all
heard between whiles, tho' no one could
tell who spoke them, or whether they
were mention'd with Approbation or Dis-
like. The words *Genius*,—and *no Ge-
nius* ;—*Invention*,—*Poetry*,—*fine Things*,—*bad
Language*,—*no Style*,—*charming Wri-
ting*,—*Imagery*—and *Diction*, with many
more Expressions which swim on the Sur-
face of *Criticism*, seem'd to have been
caught by those *Fishers for the Reputation
of Wit*, tho' they were intirely ignorant
what Use to make of them, or how to ap-
ply them properly : But as soon as the
Noise grew loud, and the whole Company
were engaged in admiring their own *Sen-
timents* so much, that they observed no-
thing else, *David* made a Sign to his
Companion, and they left the Room, and
went home ; but were, for some time, in
the Condition of Men just escaped from a
Shipwreck, who tho' they rejoice in their
Safety, yet is there such an Impression left
on them by the Bellowing of the Waves, the
Cursing and Swearing of some of the Sai-
lors, the Crying and Praying of others,
with the Roaring of the Winds, that it is
some time before they can come to their
Senses. But as soon as *David* could reco-

ver himself enough to speak coherently,
 he told the Gentleman, " He had now
 " shewn him what had surprized him
 " more than any thing he ever saw before ;
 " for he could comprehend what it was
 " People pursued who spent their time
 " in Gaming, but he could not find out
 " what were the Schemes of this last Set
 " of Company, nor what could possibly
 " make so many People eager about
 " *nothing* ; for what was it to them who
 " writ best or worst, or how could they
 " make any Dispute about it, since the
 " only Way of writing well was to draw
 " all the Characters from Nature, and to
 " affect the Passions in such a manner, as
 " that the *Distresses* of the Good should
 " move Compassion, and the Amiable-
 " ness of their Actions incite Men to
 " imitate them ; while the *Vices* of the
 " Bad stirred up Indignation and Rage,
 " and made Men fly their Foot-steps :
 " That this was the only kind of Writing
 " useful to Mankind, tho' there might be
 " Embellishments, and Flights of Imagi-
 " nation, to amuse and divert the Reader."

His Companion was quite peevish with
 him, (*which was no hard matter for him
 to be*) to find him always going on with
 his *Goodness--Usefulness,--and Morality.--*

How-

However, at last he fell a-laughing, and told him, “ He was much mistaken, if
 “ he thought any of them troubled their
 “ Heads at all about the Authors, or ever
 “ took the least Pleasure in reading them;
 “ nay, half of them *had not read* the
 “ Books they talk’d of; but they are
 “ (said he) a Set of People, who place
 “ their whole *Happiness* in the *Reputation*
 “ of *Wit and Sense*, and consequently all
 “ their Conversation turns on what they
 “ think will establish that *Character*; and
 “ they are the most inveterate Enemies to
 “ any Person they imagine has more Re-
 “ putation that way than themselves.”

DAVID had no longer Patience, but cry’d out, “ What Hopes can I ever have
 “ of meeting with a Man who deserves
 “ my Esteem, if Mankind can be so fu-
 “ rious against each other, for things which
 “ are of no manner of Consequence, and
 “ which are only to be valued according
 “ to the Use that is made of them, while
 “ they *despise* what is in every one’s
 “ Power of attaining; namely, the Con-
 “ sciousness of acting with *Honour* and *In-*
 “ *tegrity*. But I observed one young Lady
 “ who shew’d, by her Silence, the Con-
 “ tempt for the *Company* they deserved:
 “ Pray,

“ Pray, Sir, do you know her? I should
“ be glad to be acquainted with her.”
“ I know no more of her, replied *Spatter*,
“ than that she is Daughter to one of the
“ Ladies who was there; but her Silence
“ is no Proof of any thing but that she is
“ *unmarried*; for you must know, that
“ it is reckon’d a very ill-bred thing for
“ Women to say any more than just to
“ answer the Questions ask’d them, while
“ they are *single*. I cannot tell the Mean-
“ ing of it, unless it is a Plot laid by Pa-
“ rents to make their Daughters willing
“ to accept any *Match* they provide for
“ them, that they may have the *Privilege*
“ of *speaking*. But, if you are not tired
“ with Criticism, I will carry you To-
“ morrow where you shall hear some of a
“ quite different Kind; for there are
“ three Sorts of Criticks, the one I have
“ already shewn you, who arrogantly set
“ up their own Opinions, tho’ they know
“ nothing, and would be asham’d of
“ taking any thing from another; and,
“ as they cannot engage Attention by the
“ Solidity of their Sentiments, endeavour
“ to procure it by the Loudness of their
“ Voice, and to *stun* those they cannot
“ *confute*. The second Sort are a Degree
“ above them; have fix’d in their Minds
“ that

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“ that it is necessary for them to know
“ every thing ; but, as they have some-
“ thing more Sense than the former, they
“ find out that they have no Opinions of
“ their own, and therefore make it their
“ whole Study to get into Company with
“ People of real Understanding, and to
“ *pick* up every thing they hear among
“ them. Of this Treasure they are so
“ generous, that they vent it in every Com-
“ pany they go into, without Distinction,
“ by which means they impose on the
“ *Undiscerning*, and make them wonder
“ at their *Knowledge* and *Judgment* ; but
“ there is an Aukwardness and Want of
“ Propriety in their Way of Speaking,
“ which soon discover them to the dis-
“ cerning Eye : for *borrow'd Wit* be-
“ comes the Mouth as ill as *borrow'd*
“ *Clothes* the Body ; and whoever has
“ no delicate Sentiments, nor refined
“ Thoughts of his own, makes as ill a
“ Figure in speaking them, as the most
“ aukward Country Girl could do, dress'd
“ up in all the *Finery of a Court Lady*.
“ I remember a Man of that Sort, whom
“ I once heard run through most of the
“ famous Authors, without committing
“ any Error, at least in my Opinion ; and
“ yet there was something so prepos-
“ rous

" rous in his delivery, something so
 " like a *School-boy* saying his Lesson, it
 " struck me with Laughter and Con-
 " tempt, rather than with that Admira-
 " tion which he proposed to gain by it ;
 " but he has stuck himself on to a Man
 " of Sense, whom he takes so much Pains
 " to oblige, that, as he is not ill-natured,
 " he does not know how to throw him
 " off ; by which Means, he has labori-
 " ously gather'd together all he says.
 " I'll say no more of him ; he will be
 " To-morrow Evening where I propose
 " to carry you ; and, I dare say, you will
 " be very well entertain'd with him ; on-
 " ly mention *Books*, and he will imme-
 " diately display his *Learning*." *David*
 said, " He should be glad to accompany
 " him." On which they separated for
 that Evening.



CHAP.



C H A P. III.

Which proves Memory to be the only Qualification necessary to make a modern Critick.

THE next Night they went to a Tavern, where there were three Gentlemen whom *Spatter* had promised to meet ; and as the Ceremony is not so difficult to introduce Men to each other as Women, they soon fell into a Freedom of Conversation. *David* remember'd his Cue, and began to talk of Authors ; on which the Gentleman, whom *Spatter* had mention'd, presently began as follows :
“ *Homer* undoubtedly had the greatest
“ *Genius* of any Man who ever writ :
“ There is such a *Luxuriancy* of Fancy,
“ such a Knowledge of *Nature*, such a
“ Penetration into the inmost Recesses of
“ all the Passions of Human Kind display'd in his Works, as none can
“ equal, and few dare imitate. *Virgil*
“ certainly is the most correct Writer
“ that.

“ that ever was ; but then his *Invention*
 “ is not so *fruitful*, his Poem is more of
 “ the *narrative Kind*, and his Characters
 “ are not so much alive as those of his
 “ *great Master. Milton*, who imitates
 “ the other two, I think, excels the *lat-*
 “ *ter*, tho’ he does not come up to
 “ the *former* : he certainly can never
 “ be enough admired ; for nothing can
 “ at once be more the Object of Wonder
 “ and Delight than his *Paradise Lost*.
 “ *Shakespear*, whose Name is immortal,
 “ had an Imagination which had the
 “ *Power of Creation*, a *Genius* which
 “ could form *new Beings*, and make a
 “ *Language* proper for them. *Ben John-*
 “ *son*, who writ at the same time, had a
 “ vast deal of *true Humour* in his Come-
 “ dies, and very fine Writing in his Tra-
 “ gedies ; but then he is a *laborious Wri-*
 “ *ter*, a great many of those beautiful
 “ Speeches in *Sejanus* and *Catiline* are
 “ *Translations* from the *Classicks*, and
 “ he can by no means be admitted into
 “ any Competition with *Shakespear*. But
 “ I think any Comparison between them
 “ ridiculous ; for what Mr. *Addison* says
 “ of *Homer* and *Virgil*, *That reading the*
 “ *Iliad is like travelling through a Country*
 “ *uninhabited, where the Fancy is enter-*
 “ *tain’d*

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“ *tain’d with a thousand savage Prospects*
“ *of vast Desarts, wide uncultivated*
“ *Marshes, huge Forests, mis-shapen Rocks*
“ *and Precipices : On the contrary, the*
“ *Æneid is like a well-order’d Garden,*
“ *where it is impossible to find out any Part*
“ *unadorn’d, or to cast our Eyes upon a*
“ *single Spot that does not produce some*
“ *beautiful Plant or Flower : is equally*
“ *applicable to Shakespear and Ben John-*
“ *son ; so that to say the one or the*
“ *other writes best, is like saying of a*
“ *Wilderness, that it is not a regular*
“ *Garden ; or, of a regular Garden, that*
“ *it does not run out into that Wildness*
“ *which raises the Imagination, and is to*
“ *be found in Places where only the Hand*
“ *of Nature is to be seen. In my Opi-*
“ *nion, the same thing will hold as to*
“ *Corneille and Racine : Corneille is the*
“ *French Shakespear, and Racine their*
“ *Ben Johnson. The Genius of Corneille,*
“ *like a fiery Courser, is hard to be re-*
“ *strain’d ; while Racine goes on in a ma-*
“ *jestick Pace, and never turns out of the*
“ *Way, either to the Right or Left. The*
“ *Smoothness of Waller’s Verse resem-*
“ *bles a gentle cooling Stream, which*
“ *gives Pleasure, and yet keeps the Mind*
“ *in Calmness and Serenity ; while Dry-*
“ *den’s*

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“ *den’s* Genius is like a rapid River, ready
 “ to over-leap its Bounds ; which we view
 “ with Admiration, and find, while we
 “ are reading him, our Fancy heighten’d
 “ to rove thro’ all the various *Labyrinths*
 “ of the *human Mind*. It is a thousand
 “ pities he should ever have been *forced*
 “ *to write for Money* ; for who that has
 “ read his *Guiscarda* and *Sigismonda*, could
 “ ever have thought he could have pen’d
 “ some other Things that go in his Name?
 “ *Prior’s* Excellence lay in telling of
 “ Stories : And *Cowley* had a great deal
 “ of *Wit* ; but *his Verse is something*
 “ *hobbling*. His *pindarick Odes* have
 “ some very fine Thoughts in them, al-
 “ tho’ I think, in the main, not much to
 “ be admired ; for it’s my Opinion, that
 “ manner of Writing is peculiar to *Pin-*
 “ *dar* himself ; and the Pretence to imi-
 “ tate him is, as if a Dwarf should un-
 “ dertake to step over wide Rivers, and
 “ stride at once over Mountains, because
 “ he has seen a Giant do it.”

HERE our Gentleman’s *Breath began*
to fail him, for he had utter’d all this as
 fast as he could speak, as if he was afraid
 he should *lose his Thread*, and *forget* all
 that *was to come*. When he had ceased,
 his *Eyes rolled with more than usual*
Quickness,

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Quickness, to view the *Applause* he expected, and thought he so well deserved, and he look'd bewilder'd in his own Eloquence.

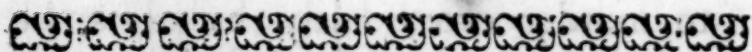
THE two Gentlemen who were with him seem'd struck with *Amazement*; and yet there was a Mixture of *Uneasiness* in their Countenances, which plainly proved they were sorry they had not spoke every Word he had said. *David* stared to hear so much good Sense thrown away, only by being convey'd thro' a Channel not made by Nature for that Purpose; whilst his Companion diverted himself with the Thoughts how ridiculous a Figure the Man made, at the same time that he fancied he was the *Object of Admiration*. They staid at the Tavern but a short time, and concluded the Evening at home, as usual, with *Spatter's Animadversions* on the Company they had just left. *David* said, " He thought
" there was no great Harm in this Sort of
" Vanity; for if a Man could make
" himself happy by imagining himself six
" Foot tall, tho' he was but three, it certainly
" would be ill-natured in any one
" to take that Happiness from him." *Spatter* smiled, and said, " He believed
" he at present spoke without Consideration;
" tion;

" tion; for nothing hurts a Man or his
 " Acquaintance more than his possessing
 " himself with the Thoughts he is any
 " thing he is not. If, indeed, a short
 " Man would think himself tall, without
 " being actuated by that Fancy, there
 " would be no great matter in it; but if
 " that Whim carries him to be continual-
 " ly endeavouring at Things out of his
 " *Reach*, it probably will make him pull
 " them down on his own Head, and
 " those of all his Companions; and if
 " the looking as if you did not believe
 " he is quite so tall, as he is *resolved* you
 " *shall think him*, will turn him from
 " being your Friend into your most in-
 " veterate Enemy, then it becomes hurt-
 " ful: And, continued he, I never yet knew
 " a Man who did not *bate* the Person, who
 " seemed not to have the same Opinion
 " of him as he had of himself; and, as
 " that very seldom happens, I believe it
 " is one of the chief Causes of the Ma-
 " lignity Mankind have against one an-
 " other. If a Man who is *mad*, and
 " has taken it into his head he is a King,
 " will content himself with *mock Dia-*
 " *dems*, and the tawdry Robes of Ho-
 " nour he can come at, in some it will
 " excite *Laughter*, and in others *Pity*,
 " according

“ according to the different sorts of Men ;
 “ but if he is afraid that others don’t pay
 “ him the Respect due to the *Station*, his
 “ own *wild Brain* has placed him in,
 “ and for that reason carries *Daggers* and
 “ *Poison* under his *fancied royal Robes*,
 “ to murder every body he meets, he
 “ will become the *Pest of Society* ; and,
 “ in their own Defence, Men are obliged
 “ to confine him. The three Fellows
 “ we were with to-night, have an Aver-
 “ sion to every body who don’t seem to
 “ think them as *wise* as they think *them-*
 “ *selves* ; and, as they have some reason
 “ to believe that does not often happen,
 “ there are but very few People to whom
 “ they would not willingly do any Injury
 “ in their power : Whereas, if they
 “ would be contented with being as *non-*
 “ *sensical dull Blockheads as Nature made*
 “ *them*, they might pass through the
 “ World without doing any Mischief ;
 “ and perhaps, as they have *Money*, they
 “ might *sometimes do a good Action.*”

DAVID said, he had convinced him he
 was mistaken, and he was always more
 ashamed to persist in the wrong than to own
 his having been so. His Companion asked
 him if he would spend the next day in
 relaxing

relaxing his Mind, by being continually in what is called Company, and conversing with a *Set of No-bodies*. But I shall defer the Adventures of the next day to another Chapter.



C H A P. IV.

In which is seen the negative Description most proper to set forth the No Qualities of a great number of Creatures, who strut about on the Face of the Earth.

THE next Morning *David* asked *Spatter*, what it was he meant by his *No-bodies*. He told him he meant a number of Figures of Men, whom he knew not how to give any other Denomination to: But if he would saunter with him from Coffee-house to Coffee-house, and into *St. James's Park*, which are Places they much haunt, he would shew him great numbers of them: He need not be afraid of them, for altho' there was no Good in them, yet were they perfectly inoffensive; they would talk for ever, and say nothing; were always in motion, and yet could

Chap. 4. of DAVID SIMPLE. 169

could not properly be said ever to act. They have neither Wit nor Sense of any kind; and yet, as they have no Passions, they are seldom guilty of so many Indiscretions as other Men; the only thing they can be said to have, is Pride; and the only way to find that out, is by a Strut in their Gait, something resembling that of the Peacock's, which shews they are conscious (if they can be said to have any Consciousness) of their *own Dignity*; and, like the Peacock, their Vanity is all owing to their fine Feathers: for they are generally adorned with all the Art imaginable.

BUT come, if you will go with me, you may see them; for now is the Time for them to peep abroad, which they generally do about Noon.

DAVID and *Spatter* spent all that Day in rambling about with these Nobodies; for as *Spatter* knew their Walks, they soon met whole Clusters of them. *David* found them just what his Companion had described them: And when they came home at Night, he said, " it had been the most agreeable Day he had spent a great while; for he was

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“ only hurt by conversing with *mischie-*
 “ *vous Animals*; but these Creatures ap-
 “ peared quite harmless, and they cer-
 “ tainly were created for some wise Pur-
 “ pose. They might, perhaps, like *Ci-*
 “ *phers in an Account*, be of great Use
 “ in the whole, tho’ it was not to be
 “ found out by the narrow Sight of ig-
 “ norant Mortals.” *Spatter* made no
 other Answer, but by uttering the word
Fools with some Earnestness; a Monosyl-
 lable he always chose to pronounce be-
 fore he went to Bed, in’omuch that it was
 thought by some who knew him, he could
 not sleep without it. After this, they
 both retired to Rest.

THE next Day they accidentally met
 at a Coffee-house, an Acquaintance of
Spatter’s, who behaved with that extreme
 Civility and Good-humour to every thing
 around him, that *David* took a great
 fancy to him, and resolved to spend the
 Day with him. They went all to a Ta-
 vern to Dinner, and there passed a Scene,
 which would have been no ill Entertain-
 ment to the true *Lovers of Ridicule*: The
 Conversation turned mostly on the Cha-
 racters of the Men best known about
 Town. Mr. *Varnish*, for that was this
 Gentleman’s Name, found something
 praise-

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praise-worthy in every body who was mentioned ; he dropped all their Faults, talked of nothing but their good Qualities, and sought out good Motives for every Action that had any Appearance of *bad*. He turned Extravagance into Generosity, Avarice into Prudence, and so on, through the whole Catalogue of *Vir-tues and Vices* : And when he was pushed so home on any Person's Faults, that he could not intirely justify them, he would only say, " indeed, they were not what " he could wish them ; however, he was " sure they had some Good in them." On the contrary, *Spatter* fell to cutting up every fresh Person who was brought on the Carpet, without any Mercy. He loaded them with Blemishes, was silent on all their Perfections, imputed good Actions to bad Motives ; looked through the Magnifying-Glass on all their Defects, and thro' the other end of the Perspective on every thing commendable in them : And, quite opposite to Mr. *Varnish*, he always spoke in the Affirmative when he was condemning ; and in the Negative when he was forced, in spite of himself, to allow the unfortunate Wretch, whom he was so horribly mauling, any good Qualities.

IF the Reader has a mind to have a lively Idea of this Scene, let him imagine to himself a Contention between a Painter, who is finishing his favourite Piece, and a Man who places his Delight in throwing Dirt; as fast as the one employs his Art to make it beautiful, and hide its Blemishes, the other comes with Shoals of Dirt, and bespatters it all over. And poor *David* was in the Situation of a Man who was to view the Piece, which had thus alternately been touched by the Pencil, and daubed with Mud, till it was impossible to guess what it originally was. Or if this will not give him an adequate Idea of it, let him fancy a vain Man giving his own Character, and a revengeful one giving that of his most inveterate Enemy. This Contrast, in these two Men, and the Eagerness with which they both espoused their favourite Topicks, one of praising, and the other of blaming, would have been the highest Diversion to all those Men, who make it their Business to get together such Companies, as, by *opposing each other*, afford them *Matter of Laughter*.

BUT

BUT poor Mr. *Simple* looked on things in another light ; he was seriously considering the Motives from which they both acted : He could not help applauding Mr. *Varnish* ; but then he was afraid lest he should be too credulous in his good Opinion, as he had often been already, and in the end discover, that all this Appearance of Good-nature was not founded on any real Merit, as most of the People they had talked of were Strangers to him ; and he was not of the Opinion, that the *more ignorant a Man is of any Subject, the more necessary it is to talk of it.* He said very little : but when he came home in the Evening, he asked *Spatter*, what could be the Reason he so earnestly insisted on putting the worst Construction on every Man's Actions ; who replied,

“ that he hated Detraction as much as
 “ any Man living, and was as willing to
 “ allow Men the Merit they really had ;
 “ but he could not bear to see a Fellow
 “ imposing himself as a good-natured
 “ Man on the World, only because Nature
 “ had given him none of that Melancholy,
 “ which Physicians call by the
 “ Name of the Black Blood, which
 “ makes him, to please himself, look on
 every

“ every thing on the best side. I can’t
 “ say (continued he) that Gentleman is
 “ ill-humoured; but I am confident he
 “ has none of those Sensations which arise
 “ from Good-nature: for if the best
 “ Friend he had was in ever so deplora-
 “ ble a Situation, I don’t say he would
 “ do nothing to relieve him, but he
 “ would go on in *his good-humoured Way*,
 “ and feel no Uneasiness from any thing
 “ he suffered. This I say, only to shew
 “ you, how desirous I am of placing
 “ things in the most *favourable light*:
 “ for it is rather my Opinion, he is so
 “ despicable a Fellow, as to lead a Life
 “ of continual Hypocrisy, and affects all
 “ that Complaisance only to deceive Man-
 “ kind. And as he is no Fool, he may
 “ think deeply enough to know, that the
 “ praising of People for what they don’t
 “ deserve, is the surest way of making
 “ them contemptible, and leading others
 “ into the thinking of their Faults. For
 “ with all his Love of his Species, I
 “ can’t find it goes farther than Words:
 “ I never heard of any thing remarkable
 “ he did to prove that Love.” *David*
 said, “ let what would be the Cause of
 “ his Good-humour, and apparent Good-
 “ nature, yet if his Actions were not
 conformable

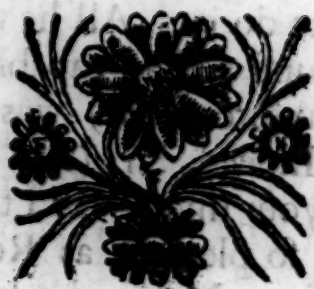
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“ conformable to his Discourse, he could
“ not esteem him; altho’ he could not
“ help being pleased with his Conversa-
“ tion.”

Thus they talked on, from one Subject to another, till they happened on Revenge. *David* said, “ of all things in
“ the world, he should hate a Man who
“ was of a vindictive Temper; for his
“ part, he could never keep up Anger
“ against any one, even tho’ he should
“ endeavour to do it. All he would do,
“ when he found a Man capable of hurt-
“ ing him, (unprovoked) was to avoid
“ him.” “ Indeed, Sir, (says *Spatter*) I
“ am not of your mind; for I think there
“ is nothing so pleasant as Revenge: I
“ would pursue a Man, who had injured
“ me, to the very Brink of Life. I know
“ it would be impossible for me ever to
“ forgive him; and I would have him
“ live, only that I might have the Plea-
“ sure of seeing him miserable.” *David*
was amazed at this, and said, “ Pray,
“ Sir, consider, as you are a Christian,
“ you cannot act in that manner.” *Spat-
ter* replied, “ he was sorry it was against
“ the Rules of Christianity, but he could
“ not help his Temper: he thought for-
I 4 giving

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“ giving any body a very great Mean-
 “ ness, and he was sure it was what he
 “ could never bring himself to.” But
 as they were both tired, they separated
 without any farther Discourse on that Sub-
 ject for that Night.



CHAP.



C H A P. V.

In which People of no Fortune may learn what monstrous Ingratitude they are guilty of, when they are insensible of the great Obligation of being ill used; with many other things which I shall not acquaint the Reader with before-hand.

DAVID could not sleep that Night, for reflecting on this Conversation. He had never yet found any Fault with *Spatter*, but his railing against others; and as he loved to excuse every body till he found something very bad in them, he imputed it to his Love of Virtue and Hatred of Vice: But what he had just been saying, made him think him a perfect Dæmon, and he had the utmost Horror for his Principles; he resolved therefore to stay no longer with him. He accordingly got up the next Morning, and went out, without taking Leave or any Notice of him, in order to seek a new Lodging.

In his Walk he met with Mr. *Varnish*, who accosted him in the most agreeable
I 5 Manner,

Manner, and asked him if he would not take a Turn in the *Park* with him. The Discourse naturally fell on *Spatter*, as he was the Person who introduced them to each other; and *Varnish* asked *David*, “How he could be so intimate with a
 “Man, who did nothing but laugh at
 “and ridicule him behind his back?” This Question a little confounded *David*, which the other perceiving, continued to assure him, “That *Spatter* had represented
 “him in several publick Places as a Mad-
 “man, who had pursued a Scheme which
 “was never capable of entering the Brain
 “of one in his Senses; namely, of hunt-
 “ing after a real Friend. This, Sir, says
 “*Varnish*, he ridiculed with more Plea-
 “santry than I can remember; and, in the
 “end, said, you was as silly as a little Child,
 “who cries for the Moon.” However difficult it was to raise *David*’s Resentment, yet he found an Indignation within him at having his favourite Scheme made a jest of: for his Man of Goodness and Virtue was, to him, what *Dulcinea* was to *Don Quixote*; and to hear it was thought impossible for any such thing to be found, had an equal Effect on him as what *Sancho* had on the Knight, when he told him, “His great
 “Princess was winnowing of Wheat, and
 “sifting

Chap. 5. of DAVID SIMPLE. 179

“ sifting Corn.” He cry’d out, “ Is there
“ a Man on Earth who finds so much Bad-
“ ness in his own Bosom, as to convince
“ him, for from thence he must be con-
“ vinced, that there is no such thing in the
“ World as Goodness? But I should won-
“ der at nothing in a Man, who professes
“ himself a Lover of Revenge, and of an
“ inexorable Temper.” *Varnish* smiled,
and said, “ If he would please to hear him,
“ he would tell him *Spatter*’s Character,
“ which, by what he had said, he found he
“ was wholly mistaken in ; for it was so
“ odd a one, that no body could find it
“ out, unless they had conversed with him
“ a great while : That, for his part, he
“ should never have known it, had he not
“ been told it by a Man who had been a
“ long time intimate with him, and who
“ knew the History of his whole Life.”
David said he would be all Attention.
Then Mr. *Varnish* went on as follows :

“ You are to know, Sir, Mr. *Spatter*’s
“ Ill-nature dwells no-where but in his
“ Tongue ; and the very People whom
“ he so industriously endeavours to abuse,
“ he would do any thing in his power to
“ serve. I have known Instances of his
“ doing the best-natured Actions in the
“ World, and, at the same time, abusing
“ the

“ the very Person he was serving. He
 “ deals out the Words *Fool* and *Knave*
 “ with such Liberality behind People’s
 “ Backs, and finds such a Variety of Epi-
 “ thets and Metaphors to convey those
 “ Ideas to Persons before their Faces, that
 “ he makes himself many inveterate Ene-
 “ mies. He, indeed, soon forgets what
 “ he has said, finds no Ill-will in himself,
 “ and thinks no more of it; but those
 “ who hear what he hath said openly a-
 “ gainst them in their Absence, or com-
 “ prehend his dark Abuse in their Pre-
 “ sence, never forgive him. I myself was
 “ once a Witness of his doing the most
 “ generous thing in the World by a Man,
 “ whom, the Moment he was gone out of
 “ the Room, he fell to pulling to pieces,
 “ in a manner as if he had been his great-
 “ est Enemy. What can be the Cause of
 “ it, I cannot imagine; whether, as you
 “ see, he has a great deal of Wit, and it
 “ lies chiefly in Satire, he does it in order
 “ to display his Parts; or whether it is
 “ owing to a natural Spleen in his Tem-
 “ per, I cannot determine. But as to his
 “ being of a revengeful Temper, I can as-
 “ sure you he is quite the contrary; for I
 “ have seen him do friendly things to Peo-
 “ ple, who, I am certain, had done him
 “ great Injuries; but that is his Way.

“ And

“ And so great is his Love of Abuse, that
 “ when no one else is talk’d of, to give
 “ him an Opportunity of displaying his
 “ favourite Talent, he falls to abusing
 “ himself, and makes his own Character
 “ much worse than it is ; for I have
 “ known him say such things of his own
 “ Principles, as would make any one
 “ think him the worst Creature in the
 “ World, and the next Minute act quite
 “ the contrary ; nay, I verily believe, this
 “ Humour so strongly possesses him,
 “ could he be put into a World by him-
 “ self, we would walk about abusing him-
 “ self even to inanimate Things : for I
 “ think he would die of the Spleen, if it
 “ was not for that Vent. He is like a
 “ mad Man, who, when he finds no-
 “ thing else to cut and slash, turns his
 “ Sword on himself.”

DAVID’s Anger at *Spatter*’s turning him into Ridicule, was now quite vanish’d, for Rage never lasted above two Minutes with him ; and he was glad to hear an Account, which did not make *Spatter* so black as, by his last Conversation, he began to suspect him. On the other hand, he was pleased to think all the Characters of Men he had had from him were not so bad as he had repre-

represented them. However, he resolved to leave him ; for nothing was more unpleasant to him than continual Invectives ; nor could he resist an Offer Mr. *Varnish* made him of lodging in the same House with him, for in his Company he always found himself pleased.

THE next Day *Varnish* told him he would carry him to visit my Lady —, who was just come from abroad, where he believed he would be very well entertain'd, as her House was frequented by a great deal of good Company. *David*, who was never out of his way, very willingly accompanied him. There happen'd that Afternoon to be only three Ladies, (who all appear'd, by their manner, to be very intimate in the Family) besides the Lady of the House, and a young Woman who lived with her. Our Hero, on whose Tendernefs the least Appearance of Grief in others made an immediate Impression, could not help observing, in the Countenance of this young Creature, a fix'd Melancholy, which made him uneasy.

THEY had not been long seated before my Lady — sent her out of the Room for some Trifle, saying, with a Sneer, “ She
“ hoped

Chap. 5. of DAVID SIMPLE. 183

“ hoped the *Expectation of being a Lady*
“ had not turn’d her Head in such a
“ manner, that she had forgot to walk
“ across the Room.” *Cynthia* (for that
was the young Woman’s Name) gave her
a Look, which at once express’d Indig-
nation and Shame at being thus treated;
with such a Mixture of Softness, as plain-
ly proved she was sorry she had so much
Reason to despise the Person she wish’d
to love. As soon as she was gone out of
the Room, my Lady, without any Re-
serve, began to declare, “ what an *un-*
“ *grateful Creature* she was; said, she
“ had taken her into her House from
“ meer Compassion, used her as well as if
“ she had been her nearest *Relation*; and
“ the Reward she had for all this, was the
“ Wretch’s endeavouring to draw in her
“ Nephew (a Boy about 17) to marry
“ her.” *David*, who utterly detested
all Ingratitude, began in his Mind to be
of my Lady’s side; but then he could
not help reflecting, that Insult was not the
proper Manner of shewing Resentment
for such Usage; if *Cynthia* was really
guilty of such a piece of Treachery, he
thought it would be better to part with
such a Wretch, than to keep her only to
abuse her.

THE

THE other Ladies gave several Instances of the Ingratitude of those low *mean Animals*, who were forced to be *Dependents*, declaring, “ That, from the Experience
 “ they had had of the Badness of the
 “ World, they were almost tempted to
 “ swear they would never do any thing to
 “ serve any body;” at the same time giving very broad hints, “ what a vast Restraint
 “ this would be upon their Inclinations,
 “ *which naturally led them to Good.*”

ONE of the Ladies, amongst several others, gave the following Instance how ungrateful the World was: “ That she had
 “ bred up a young Woman from her Childhood, who was, indeed, the Daughter
 “ of a Man of Fashion, a very good Friend
 “ of her’s, for which Reason she took to
 “ her, purely from Good-nature; but
 “ when she came to be old enough
 “ to be capable of being of service, she
 “ only desired the Wench to *keep her
 “ House, to take care of her Children, to
 “ overlook all her Servants, to be ready to
 “ sit with her when she call’d her,—with
 “ many more trifling things; and Madam
 “ grew out of humour at it, altho’ she
 “ never put the Creature at all on the
 “ footing of a Servant, nor paid her any
 “ Wages*

Chap. 5. of DAVID SIMPLE. 185

“ *Wages as such, but look’d on her as her*
“ *Companion.* Indeed, (continued she)
“ I soon grew weary of it ; for the Girl
“ pined and cried in such a manner, I
“ could not bear the Sight of her. I did
“ not dare to speak to the Mynx, which I
“ never did but in the *gentlest Terms*, only
“ to tell her what a *Situation she was in*,
“ and how unbecoming it was in her to
“ think herself on a footing *with People*
“ *of Fortune* ; for that she was left by her
“ Father on the World, without any
“ Provision, and was beholden to me for
“ every thing she had. And I do assure
“ you, I never talk’d to her in this man-
“ ner, but she had *Tears in her Eyes* for
“ a Week afterwards.”

ALL the Company, except David, join’d with this Lady in condemning the poor Girl’s monstrous Ingratitude ; but he could not forbear telling her, “ He
“ thought it was a little unkind in her to
“ upbraid so unfortunate a Person, as the
“ young Woman she had been talking
“ of, with any Favours she conferr’d on
“ her.” On this ensued a Discourse between the four Ladies, *concerning Obligation and Ingratitude, of which I really cannot remember one Word.*

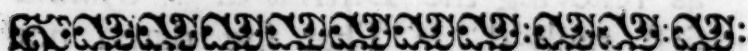
WHEN

WHEN the two Gentlemen got home, *David* said to his Companion, " He had
 " a great Curiosity to hear *Cynthia's* Sto-
 " ry ; for there was something so good-
 " natured in her Countenance, that he
 " was very much inclined to believe my
 " Lady — had not represented the Case
 " fairly." Adding, " That he should be
 " obliged to him, if he would carry him
 " the next day to see *Cynthia* alone ; for
 " he had observed by my Lady's Conver-
 " sation, that she was to go out of Town
 " in the Morning, and should leave *Cynthia*
 " at home." *Varnish*, who was all *Com-
 plaisance*, readily comply'd with his Re-
 quest ; for he had a long time been in-
 timate in the Family, and had Admit-
 tance as often as he pleased ; only he told
 him, " He must leave him there some
 " time, being obliged to meet a Gentle-
 " man at a Coffee-house." This gave
David an Opportunity of being alone with
Cynthia, which he eagerly embraced, to
 tell her, " That he saw by her Look and
 " Manner she was very unhappy, and
 " begg'd, if it was any way in his power
 " to serve her, she would let him know
 " it ; for nothing in this World was ca-
 " pable of giving him so much Pleasure,
 " as

“ as relieving the Distress’d.” *Cynthia* at first reply’d, “ That she dared not ever receive any more *Obligations*; for she had already suffer’d so much by accepting them, that she heartily wish’d she had gone thro’ all the Miseries Poverty could have brought upon her, rather than have endured half what she had done for living in Plenty at another’s Expence.”

BUT, at last, by the Innocence of *David*’s Looks, and the Sincerity which was visible in his Manner of expressing himself, she was prevail’d on to relate the History of her Life; which will be the Subject of another Chapter.





C H A P. VI.

In which is displayed the Misery young Persons, who have any Taste, suffer, unless they are bred up with reasonable People.

“ I CANNOT say, I ever had any Happiness in my Life ; for while I was young, I was bred up with my Father and Mother, who, without designing me any harm, were continually teasing me. I loved reading, and had a great Desire of attaining Knowledge ; but whenever I asked Questions of any kind whatsoever, I was always told, *such Things were not proper for Girls of my Age to know* : If I was pleased with any Book above the most silly Story or Romance, it was taken from me. For *Miss must not enquire too far into things, it would turn her Brain ; she had better mind her Needle-work, and such Things as were useful for Women ; reading and poring on Books, would never get me a Husband*. Thus was I condemned to spend my Youth,

“ the

Chap. 6. of DAVID SIMPLE. 189

“ the Time when our Imagination is at
“ the highest, and we are capable of most
“ Pleasure, without being indulged in
“ any one thing I liked ; and obliged to
“ employ myself, in what was fancied by
“ my mistaken Parents to be for my
“ Improvement, altho’ in reality it was
“ nothing more than what any Person, a
“ degree above a natural Fool, might
“ learn as well in a very small time, as
“ in a thousand Ages. And what yet
“ aggravated my Misfortunes was, my
“ having a Brother who hated reading
“ to such a degree, he had a per-
“ fect Aversion to the very Sight of
“ a Book ; and he must be cajoled or
“ whipp’d into Learning, while it was
“ denied me, who had the utmost Ea-
“ gerness for it. Young, and unexpe-
“ rienced as I was in the World, I could
“ not help observing the Error of this
“ Conduct, and the Impossibility of ever
“ making him get any Learning, that
“ could be of use to him, or of prevent-
“ ing my loving it.

“ I HAD two Sisters, whose Behaviour
“ was more shocking to me than that of
“ my Father and Mother ; because as
“ we were more of an Age, we were
“ more

“ more constantly together. I should
 “ have loved them with the sincerest Af-
 “ fection, if they had behaved to me in
 “ a manner I could have borne with Pa-
 “ tience: They neither of them were to be
 “ reckon’d amongst the silliest of Women;
 “ and had both some small glimmering
 “ Rays of Parts and Wit. To this was
 “ owing all their Faults, for they were
 “ so partial to themselves, they mistook
 “ this faint Dawn of Day, for the Sun in
 “ its Meridian; and from grasping at
 “ what they could not attain, obscured,
 “ and rendered useless all the Understand-
 “ ing they really had. From hence,
 “ they took an inveterate Hatred to me,
 “ because most of our Acquaintance al-
 “ lowed me to have more Wit than they
 “ had; and when I spoke, I was gene-
 “ rally listened to with most Attention.
 “ I don’t speak this from Vanity; for I
 “ have been so teased and tormented
 “ about *Wit*, I really wish there was no
 “ such thing in the World. I am very
 “ certain, the Woman who is possessed
 “ of it, unless she can be so peculiarly
 “ happy as to live with People void of
 “ Envy, had better be without it. The
 “ Fate of those Persons who have Wit,
 “ is no where so well described, as in
 “ those

Chap. 6. of DAVID SIMPLE. 191

“ those excellent Lines in the *Essay on*
“ *Criticism*, which are so exactly suited
“ to my present Purpose, I cannot for-
“ bear repeating them to you :

*Unhappy Wit, like most mistaken Things,
Atones not for that Envy which it brings ;
In Youth alone its empty Praise we boast,
But soon the short-liv'd Vanity is lost :
Like some fair Flower, the early Spring*

*supplies,
That gayly blooms, but even in blooming dies.
What is this Wit, which must our Cares em-
ploy ?*

*The Owner's Wife, that other Men enjoy :
The most our Trouble still, when most ad-
mir'd,*

*The more we give, the more is still requir'd.
The Fame with Pains we gain, but lose
with Ease ;*

*Sure some to vex, but never all to please :
'Tis what the Vicious fear, the Virtuous
shun,*

By Fools 'tis hated, and by Knaves undone.

“ I NEVER spoke, but I was a *Wit* ;
“ if I was silent, it was Contempt. I
“ certainly would not deign to converse
“ with such People as they were. Thus
“ whatever I did, disobliged them ; and
“ it

“ it was impossible to be otherwise, as
 “ the Cause of their Displeasure was what
 “ I could not remove. I should have
 “ been very well pleased with their Con-
 “ versation, if they had been contented
 “ to have been what Nature design’d
 “ them ; for Good-humour, and a De-
 “ sire to please, is all I wish for in a
 “ Companion ; for, in my Opinion, be-
 “ ing inoffensive goes a great way in ren-
 “ dering any Person agreeable ; but so
 “ little did they shew to me, that every
 “ Word I spoke was misunderstood, and
 “ turned to my Disadvantage. I remem-
 “ ber once on my saying, I would fol-
 “ low my Inclinations while they were
 “ innocent, and no ill Consequences at-
 “ tended them ; my eldest Sister made
 “ me so absurd an Answer, I cannot help
 “ relating it to you : for she said, *she did*
 “ *not at all doubt, but I would follow*
 “ *my Inclinations, she was really afraid*
 “ *what I should come to, as she saw, I*
 “ *fancied it a Sign of Wit to be a Li-*
 “ *bertine* ; a Word which she chose to
 “ thunder often in my Ears, as she had
 “ heard me frequently express a parti-
 “ cular Aversion to those of our Sex
 “ who deserve it. Indeed she always
 “ exulted, in saying any thing she
 “ thought

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“ thought could hurt me : If I dropt an
“ unguarded Word or Expreſſion, they
“ could poſſibly lay hold on, to turn into
“ what they thought *Ridicule*, the Joy
“ it gave them was incredible ; if I took
“ up a Book, they could not compre-
“ hend, they ſuddenly grew very mo-
“ deſt, and did not pretend to know
“ what was only *fit for the Learned*. It
“ is really entertaining to ſee the ſhifts
“ People make to conceal from them-
“ ſelves their own want of Capacities : for
“ whoever really has Senſe, will underſtand
“ whatever is writ in their own Lan-
“ guage, altho’ they are intirely igno-
“ rant of all others, with an Excep-
“ tion only of the Technical Terms of
“ Sciences. But I was once acquainted
“ with an old Man, who, from a ſmall
“ Suspicion, that he was not thought by
“ the World to be extremely wiſe, was
“ always conſidering which way he ſhould
“ flatter himſelf that the Fault was not
“ in him, but owing to ſome Accident ;
“ till at laſt, he hit on the Thought that
“ his Folly was cauſed by his Father’s
“ Neglect of him ; for he did not at all
“ ſeem to doubt, but he ſhould have had
“ as much Senſe as another, if he had
“ but underſtood *Greek* and *Latin*. As

“ if Languages had a Charm in them,
 “ which could banish all *Stupidity and*
 “ *Nonsense* from those who understood
 “ them. But to proceed in my Story :

“ I F Youth and Liveliness sometimes
 “ led me into any Action, which they, in
 “ their *riper judgments*, (for the young-
 “ est of them was five Years older than
 “ myself) termed Indiscretions, they im-
 “ mediately *thanked God, tho’ they had no*
 “ Wit, *they had common Sense, and*
 “ *knew how to conduct themselves in Life,*
 “ *which they thought much more valuable ;*
 “ *but these Wits had never any Judgment.*
 “ This is a Mistake which prevails gene-
 “ rally in the World, and, I believe,
 “ arises from the strong Desire most Men
 “ have to be thought witty ; but when
 “ they find it’s impossible, they would
 “ willingly be thought to have a Con-
 “ tempt for it ; and perhaps they some-
 “ times have the Art of flattering them-
 “ selves to such a Degree, as really to
 “ believe they do despise it : *For Men*
 “ *often impose so much on their own Un-*
 “ *derstandings, as to triumph in those very*
 “ *Things they would be ashamed of, if*
 “ *their Self-Love would but permit them*
 “ for

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“ for a Moment, to see things clearly as
“ they are : They go beyond the Jack-daw
“ in the Fable, who never went farther
“ than to strut about in the Peacock’s Fea-
“ thers, with a design of imposing on
“ others. For they endeavour so long to
“ blind other Men’s Eyes, that at last
“ they quite darken their own ; and altho’
“ in their Nature they are certainly Daws,
“ yet they find a Method of persuading
“ themselves that they are Peacocks. But
“ notwithstanding all the Industry Peo-
“ ple may make use of to blind them-
“ selves, if Wit consists, as Mr. Locke
“ says, in the *Assemblage of Ideas*, and
“ *Judgment in the separating them* ; I real-
“ ly believe the Person who can join them
“ with the most Propriety, will separate
“ them with the greatest Nicety. A Meta-
“ phor from Mechanism, I think, will
“ very plainly illustrate my Thoughts on
“ this Subject : for let a Machine, of any
“ kind, be joined together by an inge-
“ nious Artist, and I dare say, he will be
“ best able to take it apart again : a
“ Bungler, or an ignorant Person, per-
“ haps, may pull it asunder, or break it
“ to pieces ; but to separate it nicely, and
“ know how to divide it in the right
“ Places,

“ Places, will certainly be the best per-
 “ formed, by the Man who had Skill
 “ enough to set it together. But with
 “ strong Passions, and lively Imagina-
 “ tions, People may sometimes be led
 “ into Errors, altho’ their Judgments
 “ are ever so good ; and when Persons,
 “ who are esteemed by the World to
 “ have Wit, are guilty of any Failing,
 “ all *the Envious*, (and I am afraid they
 “ are too great a part of the human Spe-
 “ cies) set up a general Outcry against
 “ them.”

DAVID, into whose Head not one
 envious Thought ever entered, could easily
 comprehend the Reasonableness of what
Cynthia said, tho’ he was at a loss for Ex-
 amples of such Behaviour, but was too
 well pleased with her Manner of talking,
 to interrupt her : And she thus continued
 her Story :

“ WE had a young Cousin lived with
 “ us, who was the Daughter of my Fa-
 “ ther’s Brother, she was the oddest Cha-
 “ racter I ever knew ; for she certainly
 “ could not be said to have any Under-
 “ standing, and yet she had one of the
 “ strongest signs of Sense that could be :
 “ For

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“ For she was so conscious of her Defect
“ that way, that it made her so bashful,
“ she never spoke but with Fear and
“ Trembling, lest she should make her-
“ self ridiculous. This poor Creature
“ would have been made a perfect *Mope*,
“ had it not been for me ; for she was
“ the only Person I ever submitted to
“ flatter. I always approved whatever
“ she said, and never failed asking her
“ Opinion, whenever I could contrive to
“ do it without appearing to make a Jest
“ of her. This was the highest Joy to
“ my Sisters, who thought that in this
“ Instance, at least, they could prove my
“ want of Sense and their own *Superio-*
“ *rity*; for their Delight was in making a
“ *Butt* of this poor Girl, by *rallying*, as
“ they were pleased to term it, and put-
“ ting her out of countenance.”

“ PRAY, Madam, (said *David*) what
“ is the meaning of making a Butt of any
“ one? *Cynthia* replied, “ It is setting
“ up a Person as a Mark to be scorned,
“ and pointed at for some Defect of
“ Body or Mind, and this without any
“ Offence committed, to provoke such
“ Treatment: Nay, on the contrary, it
“ generally falls on the Bashful and Inno-

“ cent ; and when a poor Creature is
 “ thus undeservedly put to the Torment
 “ of feeling the uneasy Sensation of
 “ Shame, these *Railliers* exult in the
 “ Thoughts of their own *Wit*. To be
 “ witty without either Blasphemy, Ob-
 “ scenity, or Ill-nature, requires a great
 “ deal more than every Person, who
 “ heartily desires the Reputation of being
 “ so, can come up to ; but I have made
 “ it my Observation, in all the Families I
 “ have ever seen, that if any one Person in
 “ it is more remarkably silly than the rest,
 “ those who approach in the next degree
 “ to them, always despise them the most ;
 “ they are as glad to find any one below
 “ them, whom they may triumph over
 “ and laugh at, as they are envious and
 “ angry to see any one above them ; as
 “ *Cowards kick and abuse the Person who*
 “ *is known to be a Degree more timorous*
 “ *than themselves, as much as they trem-*
 “ *ble at the Frown of any one, who has*
 “ *more Courage.* Thus my Sisters al-
 “ ways treated my Cousin as a *Fool*,
 “ while they upbraided me with being a
 “ *Wit* ; little knowing, that if that Term
 “ has any Meaning at all, when it is used
 “ by way of Contempt, they were the
 “ very People who deserved to be called
 “ so.

“ so. For if I understand it, it is then
 “ used to signify a Person with but a ve-
 “ ry moderate Share of Understanding,
 “ who from Affectation, and an insatia-
 “ ble Desire of being thought witty, grows
 “ impertinent, and says all the ill-natured
 “ things he can think of. For my part,
 “ I conceive all manner of Raillery to be
 “ the most disagreeable Conversation in the
 “ World, unless it be amongst those Peo-
 “ ple who have Politeness and Delicacy
 “ enough to railly in the manner *La*
 “ *Bruyere* speaks of; that is, to fall only
 “ on such Frailties as People of Sense vo-
 “ luntarily give up to Censure: these are
 “ the best Subjects to display Humour, as
 “ it turns into a Compliment to the Person
 “ railled, being a sort of Insinuation that
 “ they have no greater Faults to be fallen
 “ upon.

“ WHEN I was about sixteen, I be-
 “ came acquainted with a young Lady,
 “ in whose Conversation I had the ut-
 “ most Pleasure; but I had not often an
 “ Opportunity of seeing her: for as she
 “ too was fond of Reading, my Mother
 “ was frighten’d out of her Wits, to
 “ think what would become of us, if we
 “ were much together. I verily believe,
 “ she thought we should draw *Circles*,

“ and turn *Conjurers*. Every new Ac-
 “ quaintance we had, increased my Si-
 “ sters Aversion to me; for as I was
 “ generally liked best, they were in a
 “ continual Rage at seeing I was taken
 “ so much notice of. But the only Proof
 “ of their Sense they ever gave me, was
 “ the being irritated more than usual, at
 “ the Fondness which was shewn me by
 “ this young Woman: for since they
 “ could be so low as to be envious, there
 “ was more Understanding in being so at
 “ my attaining what was really valuable,
 “ than at what was of no consequence,
 “ and gave me no other Pleasure but
 “ finding it was in my power to give it;
 “ which was the Case with most of the
 “ People I conversed with.

“ WHEN I was seventeen, my Mo-
 “ ther died, and after that, I got with
 “ more Freedom to my Companion;
 “ for my Father did not trouble himself
 “ much about me, he had given way to
 “ my Mother’s Method of educating me,
 “ as indeed he always complied with
 “ her in every thing; not that he had
 “ any extraordinary Affection for her,
 “ but she was one of those *sort of Wo-*
 “ *men*, who, if they once take any thing
 “ in

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“ in *their Heads*, will never *be quiet* till
“ they have attained it; and as he was of
“ a Disposition which naturally loved
“ Quietness, he would sooner consent to
“ any thing, than hear a Noise.

“ ONE Day, at Dinner, my Father
“ told me, *if I would be a good Girl,*
“ *I should be married very soon.* I
“ laugh'd and said, I hoped, I should
“ see the Man who was to be my Hus-
“ band, at least an Hour before-hand.
“ Yes, yes, replied he, *you shall see him*
“ *time enough; but it suffices I have an*
“ *Offer for you, which I think to your Ad-*
“ *vantage, and I expect your Obedience;*
“ *you know, your Mother always obeyed*
“ *me, and I will be Master of my own*
“ *Family.* I really could hardly forbear
“ laughing in his face; but as I thought
“ that would be very unbecoming in me
“ to my Father, I turned the Discourse
“ as fast as possible. My Sisters both fell
“ out a laughing; one cried, *Oh! now*
“ *we shall have fine Diversion,* Cynthia
“ *will be a charming Mistress of a Family.*
“ *I wonder which of her Books will teach*
“ *her to be a Housewife.* Yes, says the
“ other, *undoubtedly her Husband will*
“ *be mightily pleased, when he wants his*
K 5 “ Dinner,

“ *Dinner, to find she has been all the*
 “ *Morning diverting herself with Read-*
 “ *ing, and forgot to order any; which I*
 “ *dare say will be the Case.* I had now
 “ been so long used to them, that what
 “ they said gave me no manner of Con-
 “ cern, and I was seldom at the trouble
 “ of answering them.

“ THE next day my Father brought
 “ a Country Gentleman home to dinner
 “ with him, who was a perfect Stranger
 “ to me: I did not take much notice
 “ of him, for he had nothing remarka-
 “ ble in him; he was neither handsome
 “ nor ugly, tall nor short, old nor
 “ young; he had something, indeed, of
 “ a Rusticity in his Person; what he
 “ said, had nothing entertaining in it,
 “ either in a serious or merry way, and
 “ yet it was neither silly nor ridiculous.
 “ In short, I might be in Company with
 “ a thousand such sort of Men, and
 “ quite forget I had ever seen them:
 “ but I was greatly surprized after din-
 “ ner, at my Father’s calling me out
 “ of the Room, and telling me, *that*
 “ *was the Gentleman he designed for my*
 “ *Husband; that he expected me to receive*
 “ *him as such, and he would take the first*
 “ *Opportunity*

“ Opportunity to leave us together, that my
 “ Lover might explain himself. Which,
 “ as soon as he could contrive it, he did,
 “ by sending my Sisters and Cousin, one
 “ after another, out of the Room, and
 “ then withdrawing himself. I had so
 “ ridiculous an Idea of being thus shut
 “ up with a Stranger, in order to be made
 “ Love to, that I could not resist the
 “ Temptation of making a little Diver-
 “ sion with a Person who appeared to me
 “ in so despicable a Light. The Gentle-
 “ man took three or four strides across
 “ the Room, looked out of the Window
 “ once or twice, and then turned to me,
 “ with an *awkward* Bow, and an *irresist-*
 “ *able* Air, (as I fancy he thought it)
 “ and made me the polite Compliment,
 “ of telling me, *that he supposed my Fa-*
 “ *ther had informed me that they two*
 “ *were agreed on a Bargain.* I replied,
 “ I did not know my Father was of any
 “ Trade, or had any Goods to dispose
 “ of; but if he had, and they could
 “ agree on their Terms, he should have
 “ my Consent, for I never interfered with
 “ any Business of my Father’s: And
 “ went on rattling a good while, till he
 “ was quite out in his Catechism, and
 “ knew not what to say. But he soon re-

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“ collected himself, for he had all the
 “ Assurance of a Man, who from know-
 “ ing he has a good *Fortune*, thinks he
 “ does every Woman an *Honour* he conde-
 “ scends to speak to; and assured me, I
 “ must interfere in this *Business*, as it
 “ more particularly concerned me. In short,
 “ Madam, continued he, I have seen you
 “ two or three times, altho’ you did not
 “ know it; I like your Person, hear you
 “ have had a sober Education, think it
 “ time to have an Heir to my Estate, and
 “ am willing, if you consent to it, to make
 “ you my *Wife*; notwithstanding your Fa-
 “ ther tells me, he can’t lay you down
 “ above two thousand Pounds. I am none
 “ of those nonsensical Fools that can whine
 “ and make romantick Love, I leave that
 “ to younger Brothers, let my Estate speak
 “ for me; I shall expect nothing from you,
 “ but that you will retire into the Country
 “ with me, and take care of my Family. I
 “ must inform you, I shall desire to have
 “ every thing in order; for I love good
 “ Eating and Drinking, and have been
 “ used to have my own Humour from my
 “ Youth, which, if you will observe and
 “ comply with, I shall be very kind to you,
 “ and take care of the main Chance for
 “ you and your Children. I made him a low
 “ Courtsey,

“ Court’sey, and thanked him for the
 “ Honour he intended me; but told him,
 “ I had no kind of Ambition to be his
 “ *upper Servant*: Tho’, indeed, I could
 “ not help wondring how it was possi-
 “ ble for me to escape being charmed
 “ with his *genteel Manner* of addressing
 “ me. I then asked him how many Of-
 “ fices he had allotted for me to perform,
 “ for those great Advantages he had of-
 “ fered me, of suffering me to humour
 “ him in all his Whims, and to receive
 “ Meat, Drink, and Lodging at his
 “ hands; but hoped he would allow me
 “ some *small Wages*, that I might now
 “ and then recreate myself with my *Fellow-*
 “ *Servants*. In short, my Youth led me
 “ into indulging myself in a foolish Ri-
 “ dicule, for which I now condemn my-
 “ self. He grew angry at my laughing
 “ at him, and left me, saying, *he should*
 “ *let my Father know in what manner I*
 “ *had used him; that I might very likely*
 “ *repent the refusing him, for such Estates*
 “ *as his were not to be met with every*
 “ *day.*

“ I COULD not help reflecting on the
 “ Folly of those Women who *prostitute*
 “ themselves, (*for I shall always call it*
 “ *Prostitution, for a Woman who has*
 “ Sense,

“ *Sense, and has been tolerably educated,*
 “ *to marry a Clown and a Fool)* and give
 “ up that Enjoyment, which every one
 “ who has taste enough to know how to
 “ employ their time, can procure for
 “ themselves, tho’ they should be obliged
 “ to live ever so retired, only to know
 “ they have married a Man who has an
 “ Estate; for they very often have no
 “ more Command of it, than if they
 “ were perfect Strangers. Some Men, in-
 “ deed, delight in seeing their Wives
 “ finer than their Neighbours; which to
 “ those Women, whose whole Thoughts
 “ are fixed on fine Clothes, may be a Plea-
 “ sure; but, for my part, I should in that
 “ case think myself just in the Situation
 “ of the Horse who wears *gaudy Trap-*
 “ *pings* only to gratify his *Master’s Vani-*
 “ *ty*, whilst he himself is not at all con-
 “ sidered in them. I was certain I could live
 “ much more to my Satisfaction on the
 “ Interest of my own little Fortune, than
 “ I could do with subjecting myself to
 “ the Humours of a Man I must have al-
 “ ways disliked and despised.

“ I DON’T know how it was brought
 “ about, but this Man married my se-
 “ cond Sister, and she took the other
 “ away

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“ away with her, so that I was happily
“ rid of them both. My Father was very
“ angry with me for the present; but I
“ thought that would be soon over, and
“ did not at all doubt his being recon-
“ ciled to me again. I now began to
“ flatter myself, that I should lead a Life
“ perfectly suitable to my Taste; my
“ Cousin was very fond of me, for I was
“ the only Woman she had ever met
“ with, who had not shewn a Contempt
“ for her. I carried her with me where-
“ ever I went, and had the Pleasure of
“ seeing I was the Cause of her being
“ happy. I conversed as much as I
“ pleased with my beloved Companion,
“ and *Books and Friendship shared my*
“ *peaceful Hours.* But this lasted but a
“ very short time; for my Father, in the
“ heat of his Anger against me, made a
“ *Will*, in which he left me nothing; and
“ before his Rage abated enough for him
“ to alter it, he died of an Apoplexy. As
“ soon as my Sisters heard of his Death,
“ they hurried to Town; when the *Will*
“ was opened, and they found I was ex-
“ cluded from having any share in my
“ Father's Fortune; they triumphed over
“ me with all the Insolence imaginable,
“ and vented all their usual Reproaches;
“ saying,

“ saying, *it was impossible but that a Per-*
 “ *son of my great Wit and Genius must*
 “ *be able to provide for myself, they did not*
 “ *doubt but I could shift very well with-*
 “ *out Money.* Thus this unpardonable
 “ Crime of being thought to have more
 “ Sense than they had, was never to be
 “ forgiven ; they staid no longer in
 “ town, than while they were settling
 “ their Affairs, and left me with but five
 “ Guineas, which I happened to have
 “ saved out of my Pocket-Money, while
 “ my Father was alive. The young Wo-
 “ man I have so often mentioned to you,
 “ was so generous as to let me have all
 “ the little Money she was mistress of.
 “ I wish nothing so much as to see her
 “ again ; but while I was abroad, she and
 “ her Brother went from their Father’s
 “ House, on his bringing home a Mo-
 “ ther-in-law, and I cannot hear what is
 “ become of them. Whilst I was in this
 “ Situation, my Lady —, with whom
 “ I had had a small Acquaintance for
 “ some time, took such a fancy to
 “ me, she invited me to come and live
 “ with her ; she seemed as if she loved
 “ me, and I was ignorant enough of the
 “ World to think she did so. She was
 “ going abroad, and as I had a great
 “ Desire

“ Desire to see more Countries than my
 “ own, I propos’d to myself a great deal
 “ of Pleasure in going with her: the
 “ only Regret I had, was in leaving my
 “ dear Companion, but I was not in Cir-
 “ cumstances to refuse my Lady ——’s
 “ Offer.

“ AND now I am come to the Conclu-
 “ sion of my History, whilst I went un-
 “ der the Denomination of a *Wit*, and am
 “ really quite tired of talking; but if you
 “ have a Curiosity to know the rest of my
 “ History, and will favour me with your
 “ Company to-morrow, I will resume
 “ it.” *David* assured her, nothing could
 oblige him more, and in a little while
 took his leave of her for that Night.





C H A P. VII.

The Continuation of the History of CYNTHIA, with an Account in what manner she was suddenly transformed from a Wit into a Toad-eater, without any visible Change, in either her Person or Behaviour.

DAVID went exactly at the Time appointed the next Day, and after some little Discourse, *Cynthia* went on with her Story, as follows :

“ I THINK I left off at my going
 “ abroad with my Lady. My Cousin
 “ went home to live with her Mother ; as
 “ they had but a very small Income to
 “ keep them, I should have been heartily
 “ glad if it had been in my power to have
 “ increased it. I forgot to tell you, that
 “ my Brother died at School, when he
 “ was fifteen ; for he had but a weakly
 “ Constitution, and the continual tor-
 “ menting and whipping him, to make
 “ him

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“ him learn his Book (which was utterly
“ impossible) had such an Effect on the
“ poor Boy, it threw him into a Con-
“ sumption, of which he died. I shall not
“ undertake to give you a Description of
“ the Countries through which we passed,
“ for as we were only to make the Tour
“ of *France* and *Italy*, I suppose you have
“ read a hundred Descriptions of them
“ already. The Lady I went with, had
“ something very amiable in her Manner,
“ and at first behaved to me with so much
“ Good-nature, that I loved her with the
“ utmost Sincerity. I dwelt with plea-
“ sure on the Thoughts of the Obliga-
“ tions I owed her, as I fancied she was
“ generous enough to delight in confer-
“ ring them; and I had none of that sort
“ of *Pride, by Fools mistaken for Great-*
“ *ness of Mind*, which makes People dis-
“ dain the receiving Obligations: for I
“ think the only Meanness consists in ac-
“ cepting, and not gratefully acknowledg-
“ ing them. I had learned *French*, that is,
“ I had read some *French* Books with the
“ help of a Dictionary, to satisfy my own
“ Curiosity; for no body had ever taught
“ me any thing: On the contrary, I was
“ to be kept back as much as possible,
“ for fear I should *know too much*. But
“ the

“ the little I had learned by myself,
 “ helped me when I came into the Coun-
 “ try, to talk it tolerable well. My
 “ Lady ——— could not speak it at all,
 “ and as she did not care to take much
 “ pains while we were at *Paris*, which
 “ was a whole Winter, we herded mostly
 “ amongst the *English*.

“ I WAS now in the place of the
 “ World I had often most wished to go to,
 “ where I had every thing in great plenty,
 “ and yet I was more miserable than ever.
 “ Perhaps you will wonder what caused
 “ my Unhappiness ; but I was to appear
 “ in a Character I could not bear, name-
 “ ly, that of a *Toad-eater* : and what hurt
 “ me most, was, that my Lady herself
 “ soon began to take pains to throw me
 “ into it as much as possible.”

DAVID begged an Explanation of
 what she meant by a Toad-eater ; for he
 said it was a Term he had never heard be-
 fore. On which Cynthia replied, “ I
 “ don’t wonder, Sir, you never heard
 “ of it, I wish I had spent my Life
 “ without knowing the Meaning of it :
 “ It is a Metaphor taken from a Moun-
 “ tebank’s

“tebank’s Boy who eats Toads, in order
 “to shew his Master’s Skill in expelling
 “Poison : It is built on a Supposition,
 “(which I am afraid is too generally
 “true) that People who are so unhappy
 “as to be in a State of Dependance, are
 “forced to do the most nauseous things
 “that can be thought on, to please and
 “humour their Patrons. And the Me-
 “taphor may be carried on yet farther,
 “for most People have so much the Art
 “of tormenting, that every time they
 “have made the poor Creatures they
 “have in their power *swallow a Toad*,
 “they give them something to expel it
 “again, that they may be ready to swal-
 “low the next they think proper to pre-
 “pare for them : that is, when they
 “have abused and fooled them, as *Ham-*
 “*let* says, *to the top of their bent*, they
 “grow soft and good to them again, on
 “purpose to have it in their power to
 “*plague them the more*. The *Satire* of
 “the Expression, in reality, falls on the
 “Person who is mean enough to act in
 “so cruel a manner to their Depen-
 “dent ; but as it is no uncommon
 “thing for People to make use of
 “Terms they don’t understand, it is ge-
 “nerally used, by way of *Derision*, to
 “the

“ the unfortunate Wretch who is thrown
 “ into such a miserable Situation.

“ I REMEMBER once I went with my
 “ Lady ——— to visit some *English*
 “ Ladies, where there happened to be a
 “ great deal of Company : As we went
 “ out of the Room, I heard some-body
 “ mention the word *Toad-eater* ; I thought
 “ it was me they were speaking of, and
 “ dropt my Fan, for an Excuse to make
 “ a stop at the Door ; when I heard one
 “ Lady say to another,—*What a Crea-*
 “ *ture it is ! I believe she is dumb, for*
 “ *she has not spoke one Word since she has*
 “ *been here ; but yet I don't dislike to see*
 “ *her, for I love Ridicule of all things,*
 “ *and there is certainly nothing so ridicu-*
 “ *lous as a Toad-eater.* I could not stay
 “ to hear any more ; but I despised both
 “ these Women too much to let it be in
 “ their power to give me any Pain, for
 “ I knew by their manner of talking
 “ they were *fine Ladies* ; and that is the
 “ Character in Life I have the greatest
 “ Contempt for.”

DAVID begged her to let him know
 what she meant by *fine Ladies*. On which
 she replied, “ Indeed, Sir, you have
 “ imposed

“ imposed on me the hardest Task in the
 “ World : I know them when I meet
 “ with them ; but they have so little of
 “ what we call Character, that I don’t
 “ know how to go about the describing
 “ them. They are made up of *Caprice*
 “ and *Whim* ; they *love* and *bate*, are
 “ angry and pleased, without being able
 “ to assign a Reason for any of these Pas-
 “ sions. If they have a *Characteristick*, it
 “ is *Vanity*, to which every thing else
 “ seems to be subservient ; they always
 “ affect a great deal of *Good-nature*, are
 “ frightened out of their Wits at the sight
 “ of any Object in bodily Pain, and yet
 “ value not how much they rack People’s
 “ Minds. But I must justify them so
 “ far as to say, I believe this is owing to
 “ their Ignorance ; for as they have no
 “ *Minds of their own, they have no Idea*
 “ *of others Sensations*. They cannot, I
 “ think, well be liable to the Curse at-
 “ tending *Eve’s* Transgression, as they
 “ do not enjoy the Benefit proposed by
 “ it, of knowing *Good from Evil*. They
 “ are so very *wise*, as to think a Person’s
 “ being ignorant of what is utterly im-
 “ possible they should know, is a perfect
 “ sign of *Folly*. *Congreve* seems to me
 “ to have known them the best of any
 “ one :

“ one: My Lady *Wish-for't* at her Toi-
 “ lette is a perfect Picture of them, where
 “ she insults over, and thinks herself *wit-*
 “ *ty* on a poor ignorant Wench, because
 “ she does not know what she has never
 “ been taught, or used to. That fine Ri-
 “ dicule of the *Brass-Thimble*, and the
 “ *Nutmeg jingling in her Pocket*, with
 “ the Hands dangling like Bobbins, is
 “ exactly their sort of Wit; and then
 “ they never call any one by their right
 “ Names, *Creatures, Animals, Things*, all
 “ the Words of Contempt they can think
 “ of, are what they delight in. *Shake-*
 “ *spear* has made *Hamlet* give the best
 “ Description imaginable of them, in that
 “ one Line which he addressses to *Opbe-*
 “ *lia*;—*Ye lisp—and ye amble,—and*
 “ *ye nick-name God's Creatures*. An Ex-
 “ pression I never understood, till I
 “ knew the World enough to have met
 “ with some of those sort of Women.
 “ They are not confined to any Sta-
 “ tion; for I have known, while the
 “ Lady has been insulting her Waiting-
 “ woman in the Dressing-Room, the
 “ Chamber-Maid has been playing just
 “ the same Part below stairs, with the
 “ Person she thought her inferior, only
 “ with a small Variation of Terms. But
 “ I

“ I will dwell no longer on them ; for I
 “ am tired of them, as I have often been
 “ in Life.

“ B U T this would have had no Effect
 “ on me, had my Lady behaved well
 “ herself. To her Usage was owing all my
 “ Misery ; for by that time I had remained
 “ with her two or three Months, she be-
 “ gan to treat me as a *Creature* born to
 “ be her *Slave* : whenever I spoke, I was
 “ sure to offend her ; if I was *silent*, I
 “ was *out of humour* ; if I said any
 “ thing in the softest Terms, to com-
 “ plain of the Alteration of her Affec-
 “ tion, I was *whimsical* and *ungrate-*
 “ *ful*. I think it impossible to be in a
 “ worse Situation. She had raised my
 “ Love, by the Obligations she had con-
 “ fer’d on me, and yet continually pro-
 “ voked my Rage by her Ill-nature : I
 “ could not, for a great while, any way
 “ account for this Conduct : I thought,
 “ if she did not love me, she had no
 “ Reason to have given herself any trouble
 “ about me ; and yet I could not think
 “ she could have used one for whom she
 “ had had the least Regard in so cruel a
 “ manner. At last, I reflected, it must be
 “ owing to a love of *Tyranny*, and as we
 Vol. I. L “ are

“ are born in a Country where there is
 “ no such thing as public, legal Slavery,
 “ People lay Plots to draw in others to
 “ be their Slaves, with the pretence of
 “ having an Affection for them: And
 “ what is yet more unfortunate, they al-
 “ ways chuse the Persons who are least
 “ able to bear it. It’s the fierce met-
 “ tled Courser (who must be brought to
 “ their Lure by fawning and stroaking)
 “ that they love to wring, and gird the
 “ Saddle on; whilst the Mule, which
 “ seems born to bear their Burdens, passes
 “ by them unheeded and neglected. I
 “ was caught, like the poor Fish, by the
 “ Bait which was treacherously extended
 “ for me, and did not observe the *Hook*
 “ which was to pierce *my Heart*, and be
 “ my Destruction. You cannot imagine
 “ what I felt; for to be used ungrateful-
 “ ly, by any one I had confer’d Favours
 “ on, would have been nothing to me,
 “ in comparison of being ill used by the
 “ Person I thought myself obliged to. I
 “ was to have no *Passions*, no *Inclinations*
 “ of my own; but was to be turned into
 “ a piece of Clock-work, which her La-
 “ dyship was to wind up or let down, as
 “ she pleased. I had Resolution enough
 “ to have borne any Consequence that
 “ might have attended my leaving her;
 “ but

“ but I could not bear the Thoughts of
 “ even the Imputation of Ingratitude;
 “ *for there are very few People, who*
 “ *have any Notion of Obligations which*
 “ *are not pecuniary.* But, in my Opi-
 “ nion, those Persons who give up their
 “ Time, and sacrifice all their own In-
 “ clinations, to the Humours of others,
 “ cannot be over-paid by any thing they
 “ can do for them. Men never think
 “ a Slave obliged to them for giving
 “ him Bread, when he has performed
 “ his Task. And certainly it is a dou-
 “ ble Slavery to be made *servile* under
 “ the pretence of *Friendship*; for no
 “ Labour of the Body could have been
 “ so painful to me, as the having my
 “ Mind thus teased and tortured. My
 “ *Wit*, which I had heard so much of,
 “ was now all fled; for I was looked on
 “ in so contemptible a Light, that no-
 “ body would hearken to me: The only
 “ Comfort I had, was in the Conversation
 “ of a *led Captain*, who came abroad with
 “ a Gentleman of my Lady’s Acquain-
 “ tance. There are two sorts of *led Cap-*
 “ *tains*; the one is taken a fancy to by
 “ somebody much above him, seated at
 “ his Superior’s Table, and can *cringe and*
 “ *flatter, fetch and carry Nonsense for*
 “ my

“ *my Lord*; thinking himself happy in
 “ being thus admitted into Company,
 “ whom his Sphere of Life gives him no
 “ *Prétensions* to keep. The other is a
 “ sort of Male Toad-eater, who by some
 “ Misfortune in Life is thrown down
 “ below his proper Station, meets with a
 “ Patron who pretends to be *his Friend*;
 “ and who by that means draws him in to
 “ be sincerely his. This Gentleman’s Case
 “ and mine were so much alike, that our
 “ greatest Pleasure was in comparing
 “ them; but I was much more astonish-
 “ ed at his Patron’s Behaviour than at
 “ my Lady —’s, for altho’ she had a to-
 “ lerable Understanding, yet it was not
 “ of that sort, which would make one
 “ wonder at her Frailties. But he was re-
 “ markable for his Sense and Wit, and
 “ yet could not forbear making this poor
 “ Gentleman feel all the weight of *De-*
 “ *pendance*. He was so inconsistent with
 “ himself, he could not bear he should
 “ see his *Tyranny*, because he was very
 “ *fond* of gaining every body’s Esteem;
 “ not considering his Aim would have
 “ been lost, if the other had not been
 “ sensible of his Behaviour: but because
 “ he saw him uneasy under it, he took
 “ a perfect Aversion to him. I have
 “ heard

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“ heard of a Gentleman, who would never go to another’s House, if he had
“ ever so many Coaches and Six to carry
“ him in, without Horses of *his own* :
“ saying, *the only Way to be treated well,*
“ *was to shew People he had it in his*
“ *power* to leave them whenever he
“ pleased. And I think he was perfectly
“ in the right ; for melancholy Experience has taught me how miserable it
“ is to abandon one’s self to another’s
“ Power. But now to shew you the un-
“ accountable Caprice of Human Nature,
“ I must tell you, that this very Gentle-
“ man, who had thus *groaned* under the
“ Affliction of another’s using him ill,
“ coming to an Estate which was en-
“ tailed on him by a Cousin’s dying with-
“ out Children, became the greatest Ty-
“ *rant in the World* ; and kept a *led Cap-*
“ *tain*, whom he used much worse than
“ his former Patron had ever done him :
“ And instead of avoiding the treating
“ another in a manner he himself had
“ found so difficult to bear, he seemed as
“ if he was resolved to revenge his former
“ Sufferings, on a Person who was per-
“ fectly innocent of them.

“ I KNOW not to what Malignity it is
“ owing, but I have observed, in all the
“ Families I have ever been acquainted
“ with, that one part of them spend
“ their whole time in oppressing and
“ teasing the other ; and all this they do
“ like *Drawcanfir*, only *because they dare*,
“ and to shew their Power : While the
“ other Part languish away their Days,
“ in bemoaning their own hard Fate,
“ which has thus subjected them to the
“ Whims and Tyranny of *Wretches*, who
“ are so *totally void of Taste*, as not to
“ *desire the Affection of the very People*
“ *they appear willing to oblige*. It's late
“ to-night ; but if you have a Curiosity
“ to hear the Remainder of my Story,
“ to-morrow I will proceed.

DAVID, who never desired any one
to do what was the least irksome, took
his leave for that Evening, and returned
the next day, according to *Cynthia's* own
Appointment.

CHAP.



C H A P. VIII.

*A Continuation of CYNTHIA'S
Story.*

THE next Evening, after the usual Civilities had passed between *David* and *Cynthia*, she, at his Request, went on with her Story.

“ I SPENT the whole time I was
“ abroad in Misery ; because my Lady
“ ——— chose to see me *unhappy*, and
“ *sighing* at her *Tyranny*, instead of view-
“ ing me always (which she might have
“ done) with *cheerful Looks*, and a Coun-
“ tenance expressive of the most grate-
“ ful *Acknowledgments*, for owing a Life
“ of *Ease* and *Plenty* to her *Benevo-*
“ *lence*.”

DAVID, whose only Pleasure was in giving it others, was more amazed at this Account of my Lady ———’s Behaviour, than he would have been at the most surprizing Phænomenon in Nature : But

he had so much Curiosity to know the End of *Cynthia's* Story, that he would not interrupt her: And she went on as follows.

“ SINCE our Arrival in *England*, an
 “ Accident has happened to me, which
 “ was as little thought on as wish'd for.
 “ My Lady — has a Nephew of about
 “ seventeen Years of Age, who after the
 “ Death of his Father, will be Earl of
 “ ———, with a great Estate. This
 “ young Man took such a Fancy to me,
 “ that the very first Opportunity he had
 “ of speaking to me alone, he made me
 “ a Proposal of Marriage. This is, in my
 “ Opinion, a very odd way of proceed-
 “ ing; but it is not very uncommon
 “ amongst Men who think themselves so
 “ much *above us*, that there is no dan-
 “ ger of a Refusal; and consequently
 “ that they may be excused the *usual*
 “ *Forms* on such Occasions. I was, at
 “ first, so surprized, I knew not what to
 “ answer; but as soon as I could recol-
 “ lect my Thoughts, and revolve in my
 “ Mind the Situation I was in, I told him
 “ that I was infinitely obliged to him, for
 “ his good Opinion of me; but that as
 “ I lived in my Lady ———'s House, I
 should

“ should think myself guilty of the ut-
 “ most *Treachery*, to marry so near a
 “ Relation of her’s without her Consent;
 “ and as in my Circumstances I was not
 “ likely to obtain that, I begged him to
 “ give up all Thoughts of it. The more
 “ I refused him, the more earnest he was
 “ with me to comply: But while we were
 “ talking, my Lady —— entered the
 “ Room. I could not help blushing and
 “ looking confused, and my Lord ——
 “ was almost as much so as myself. She
 “ has very penetrating Eyes, and imme-
 “ diately saw something extraordinary
 “ had happened. However, she said
 “ nothing till my Lord —— was gone,
 “ when she insisted on knowing the
 “ whole Truth, and was so very pressing,
 “ that at last I told it her; as I had done
 “ nothing I had any reason to be ashamed
 “ of, but acted (as I thought) with
 “ great *Honour* towards my Lady——I
 “ had no Suspicion, that letting her know
 “ her Nephew liked me, could possibly
 “ turn out to my Disadvantage. But the
 “ Moment I had complied with her De-
 “ sire, in openly declaring the Cause of that
 “ Confusion she had observed in us both,
 “ at her Entrance, she flew into as great a
 “ *Rage*, as if I had been guilty of the

“ worst of Crimes; talked in her usual
 “ Style, of my *Ingratitude*; said, *It was*
 “ *a fine Return for all her Kindness, to*
 “ *endeavour to draw in her Nephew to*
 “ *marry me.* All I could say or do,
 “ could not pacify her. She immediately
 “ sent to my Lord’s Father, who carried
 “ his Son out of town, and intends
 “ to send him abroad, in order to prevent
 “ his seeing me any more.

“ AND now I am to be used ten times
 “ worse than ever I was: But I shall not
 “ bear it much longer; for let the Consequence
 “ be what it will, I am sure I cannot
 “ lead a more unhappy Life than I
 “ do at present. I verily believe, if my
 “ Lord — was to marry *any other Woman*,
 “ without a *Fortune*, it would not
 “ give her half the Uneasiness; but to
 “ think that a Person, whom she has so
 “ long looked on as her *Subject*, should
 “ have an Opportunity of becoming her
 “ *Equal*, is more than she can bear.
 “ Thus, Sir, I am come to the End of
 “ my Story: I wish there was any thing
 “ more entertaining in it; but your desiring
 “ to know it, appeared to me to
 “ arise from so much Good-nature and
 “ Compassion

“ Compassion for the Afflicted, I could
 “ not refuse to gratify your Curiosity.”

DAVID assured her, “ if it was any
 “ way in his Power to serve her, he
 “ should have the utmost Pleasure in do-
 “ ing it; and that if she thought it pro-
 “ per to leave my Lady ———, and go
 “ into a Lodging by herself, he would
 “ supply her with whatever she wanted:
 “ That she had no Reason to be afraid,
 “ that he should upbraid her with be-
 “ ing *obliged* to him; for that, on the
 “ contrary, he should be thankful to her
 “ for giving him an Opportunity of be-
 “ ing any ways useful to a Person of her
 “ *Merit*: For that he had observed the
 “ World in general was so very mer-
 “ cenary, he could not help being at
 “ once pleased and surprized, to find a
 “ Person of her Age, and in her Circum-
 “ stances, who had Resolution enough to
 “ think of refusing any Offer that was
 “ for her Advantage, from a Notion of
 “ Honour.”

WHILST they were in this Discourse,
 my Lady ———, who had altered her
 Mind, and did not stay out of town as
 long as she at first intended, returned
 L 6 home.

home. *David* thinking he might be troublesome at her first coming off her Journey, soon retired, and the Moment he was gone, my Lady — vented all the most ill-natured Reproaches on poor *Cynthia*, she could think on; saying, “ she
 “ supposed, now her House was to be
 “ made the Receptacle for all the *young*
 “ *Fellows* in town :—That she was sure
 “ there must be something very *forward*
 “ in her *Behaviour*, for it could not be
 “ her *Beauty* that drew Men after her.”
 —In short, she treated her as if she had been the most *infamous* Creature alive; nor did she scruple to do this before all the Servants in her House. I suppose, besides her natural Love of Tyranny, she was one of those sort of Women, who, like *Venus* in *Telemachus*, lose the Pleasure of their numberless *Votaries*, if one Mortal escapes their Snares. Besides, she thought it insupportable, that a *Wretch*, whom she looked upon to be so much *below* her as *Cynthia*, should have any Charms at all.

THE next Day, *David* went to see her again, and as my Lady — was gone to make a Visit, he met with *Cynthia* alone : He found her dissolved in Tears,
 and

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and in such an Agony, that she was hardly able to speak to him : At last, however, she informed him in what manner my Lady —— had used her, because he happened to be there when she came home. *David* begged her not to bear this Treatment any longer, but to accept his Offer ; and assured her, he would both protect and support her, if she would give him leave. *Cynthia* was charmed with his generous manner of offering to assist her, but said, her case was the most to be lamented in the world ; for that if she accepted what he with so much Good-nature offered her, it would be in my Lady ——'s Power (and she was certain it would be in her Will) to make her infamous. But on an Assurance from *David*, that he would submit to what Rules she pleased, supply her with whatever she wanted, and at the same time deny himself even the Pleasure of seeing her, if she thought it proper, she at last consented, and they consulted together the Method they should take. They agreed that *Cynthia* should leave a place she so much detested, as the House where she then was, the next day. But she said, she would acquaint my Lady —— with her Resolution,

lution, that it might not look like running away from her: She was very sensible, she must bear great Invectives and Reproaches; but however, she thought she should be able to go through them, as *David* it would be the last time.

DAVID was to take her a Lodging, and *David* her word by some Woman, where *David* was, that she might go to it without his appearing in the Affair. When they had settled every thing to their Satisfaction, he took his leave, that he might not be there when my Lady — came home. Now the Anxiety was over, *for the Perplexity which is caused by not knowing how to act, is the greatest Torment imaginable*; but as *Cynthia* had fixed her Resolution, her Mind was calmer and her Countenance more cheerful than it had been for some time. My Lady — designed that Evening to use her very well, which she generally did once a week or fortnight, as if she laid a plot sometimes just to give her a taste of Pleasure, only to make her feel the want of it the more. But when she saw her look pleased, and on inquiry found that *David* had been there, her Designs were altered, and she could not forbear abusing her.

But

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But the moment she began, *Cynthia*, instead of keeping her usual Silence, intreated her to give her one quarter of an Hour's Attention ; which, after two or three Speeches, which my Lady ——— thought *Witticisms*, (such as, *That what she said must be worth hearkening to ; That may be, her new Gallant had put some fresh Nonsense in her Head ;*) was at last obtained : When *Cynthia* began as follows.

“ I CONFESS, Madam, you took me
“ from *Poverty* and *Distress*, and gave
“ me *Plenty* ; I own the Obligation, nor
“ have I ever, even in my Thoughts,
“ tried to lessen it. *The moment Pride*
“ *makes any of us wish or endeavour,*
“ *by the Power of Imagination and Fal-*
“ *lacy, to lose the Sense of Favours con-*
“ *ferred on us, all Gratitude must neces-*
“ *sarily be at an end.* Had you be-
“ haved to me, as I first flattered myself
“ you intended, your Ladyship in me
“ might have had a *willing Slave* : I
“ should have thought my Life would
“ have been but a small Sacrifice, could
“ any Interest of your's have required it.
“ Nay, I have already done more, I
“ have given up my Youth, the time
“ which is the most valuable in Life, to
please

“ please all your *Whims*, and comply with
 “ all your *Humours*. You have chose,
 “ that instead of looking on you as my
 “ *generous Benefactress*, I should find you
 “ an *arbitrary Tyrant*: the Laws of *Eng-*
 “ *land* will not suffer you to make *Slaves*
 “ of your *Servants*, nor will I bear it any
 “ longer. I am certain, the meanest Per-
 “ son in your House has not gone thro’
 “ half what I have done for *Bread*:
 “ And, in short, Madam, here your
 “ Power is at an end, to-morrow I
 “ shall take my leave of you; I cannot
 “ help wishing you happy, but must
 “ own, I heartily hope you will never
 “ have any body so much in your *Power*
 “ again.”

My Lady, who had been used to be
 treated by every thing in her House, (*her*
Husband not excepted) with the greatest
 deference, swelled and reddened at this
 Discourse of *Cynthia's*, till at last, for
 want of Words to vent her Rage, she
burst into Tears. *Cynthia*, whose Good-
 nature nothing could exceed, thinking
 this arose from my Lady's *Consciousness*
 of her own wrong Behaviour, was sof-
 tened, and threw herself at her Feet,
 asked ten thousand Pardons, said, *if she*
could

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could have guessed the Effect what she said would have had on her, she would sooner have been for ever dumb, than have utter'd a Word to offend her. But, alas ! how was she mistaken ? For as soon as my Lady —'s Tears had made way for her Words, she fell upon her with all the most bitter *Invectives* she could think of, and even descended so far as to forget her Quality, (*which was seldom out of her Thoughts*) and use the most vulgar Terms, in order to abuse her. *Cynthia*, who had a great Aversion to all Broils and Quarrels, seeing her Passion was so high, said no more, but let her rail on, till it was time to go to bed.

WHEN *Cynthia* waked the next Morning, she thought she had now performed her Duty in informing my Lady — of her Design to leave her, and therefore chose not to bear any farther Abuses from her : so that as soon as *David's* Messenger came, which was very early, she went with her, without any more Ceremony, to the Lodging he had taken for her. And here, I doubt not, but the graver sort of my Female Readers will be as ready to condemn *Cynthia* for taking such a Step, and thus putting herself in the power of a Man,
with

with whom she had had so short an Acquaintance, as my Lady — herself was. I do not pretend wholly to justify her; *but, without doubt, there are some Circumstances in Life, where the Distress is so high, and the Mind in such an Anxiety, that a Person may be pardoned the being thrown so much off their guard, as to be drawn into Actions, which, in the common Occurrences of Life, would admit of no Alleviation.*

CYNTHIA herself, as soon as she had time to reflect, suffered as much by the Consideration of what she had done, as she did while she lived with my Lady —. She knew too much of the World, to be easily persuaded that any Man could act as *David* did by her, from pure Friendship: nor was she, indeed, long left in doubt in this matter; for altho' he paid her all imaginable Respect, yet she plainly saw that he liked her. This perplexed her more than ever, for it gave her very little Relief, to find his Designs were honourable, as in her Situation she could not comply with them. For to confess the Truth, altho' I hope she would have acted the same part, with relation to her Refusal of my Lord —, had she
had

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had no other Motive than Honour to induce her to it ; yet she had the additional Reason for it, of having from her Youth secretly liked and esteemed a young Gentleman, with whom she was then acquainted. At last, after many Reflections, and often revolving in her Mind which way she should act, she fixed on a Resolution of going into the Country to see her Cousin, a Person whom she has often mentioned in the forgoing part of this History.

DAVID, altho' it was with great Regret he parted with her, did not attempt to say any thing to dissuade her from what he saw she had so great an Inclination to ; only insisted on her accepting Money enough to bear her Expences. This she would not have done on any other Consideration, but that of seeing he would be very uneasy if she refused him : And here, for the present, we must take our leave of *Cynthia*.

DAVID's stay with *Varnish*, was but of small duration ; for although he was agreeably entertained, by continually hearing the Praises of all the Company they met with ; yet he could not help observing

ing, that notwithstanding the Appearance of Good-nature which shewed itself in *Varnish*, yet, in reality, he was not at all affected with others Sufferings. His Mother lived with him, and he shewed her so much Respect, and treated her with so much Complaisance, that *David* at first thought he loved her with the greatest Tenderneſs; but as this poor Woman was afflicted with the Stone and Gout, to ſuch a degree as often threw her into violent Agonies, it gave *David* an Opportunity of obſerving that in the miſt of her Groans, which often pierced *him* to the Soul, *Varnish* preſerved his uſual *Serenity of Countenance*, nor did the *Gaiety* of his Temper fail him in the leaſt. This reminded him of the Character which *Spatter* had given of him, *viz.* that he kept up an eternal Chearfulneſs, only becauſe he had none of thoſe Senſations which ariſe from Good-nature; and made *David* reſolve not to live with a Man he could not eſteem; which was the point he was always aiming at: And altho' he had met with ſo many Diſappointments, he was not yet drove to Deſpair, but went on in his Purſuit.



C H A P. IX.

In which Mr. Simple gave a fresh Proof, that he was not insensible of his Fellow-Creatures Sufferings.

MY Hero now had left *Varnish*, and *Cynthia* was gone out of Town; so that he was to begin the World again. And the next Fancy he took into his Head, was to dress himself in a mean Habit, take an ordinary Lodging, and go amongst the Lower Sort of People, and see what he could make of them. He went from House to House for a whole Month; for as he was now got amongst a Class of People, who had not had those Advantages from Education, which teach Men the way of artfully disguising their Dispositions; whilst he lived with them, he never imagined he had met with any thing he could esteem. For mercenary Views there, were so immediately perceptible in every thing they all said, or did, that he met with fewer Disappointments in this way, than
in

in any other. This gave him but a melancholy Prospect; for he thought, if a Disposition was naturally good, it would appear as well in the lowest as in the highest Station.

As he was sitting one Evening revolving these things in his Mind, he suddenly heard a great Scolding in a Female Voice over his Head; which was so shrill, and continued so long in one Tone, that it gave him a Curiosity to know the Meaning of it. He went up stairs into a Garret, where he saw a most moving Scene. There lay on a Bed (or rather on a parcel of Rags patched together, to which the Mistress of the House *chose* to give the *Name* of a Bed) a young Man, looking as pale as Death, with his Eyes sunk in his Head, and hardly able to breathe, covered with half a dirty Rug, which would scarce come round him. On one Side of him sat holding him by the Hand, a young Woman in an old Silk Gown, which looked as if it had been a good one; but so tattered, that it would barely cover her with Decency. Her Countenance was become wan with Affliction, and Tears stood in her Eyes, which she seemed unwilling to let fall,

fall, lest she should add to the Sorrow of the Man she sat by, and which, however, she was not able to restrain. The Walls were bare, and broke in many places in such a manner, that they were scarce sufficient to keep out the Weather. The Landlady stood over them, looking like a Fury, and swearing, “ she would
“ have her *Money*; that she did not un-
“ derstand what People meant by coming
“ to lodge in other Folks Houses, with-
“ out paying them for it: she had been
“ put off several times, and she could
“ not stay any longer.”

DAVID was struck dumb at this Scene; he stared at the Man on the Bed, viewed the young Woman; then turned his Eyes on the Landlady, whom he was ready to throw down stairs for her Cruelty. He was for some time disabled from speaking, by the Astonishment he was under. The young Woman, in a low Voice, interrupted with Sobs and Tears, begged the Landlady to have Patience; and promised, if she should ever be worth so much, she would pay her double the Sum she owed her; begged her no more to disturb her Brother in his present Condition; but if he must die, that she would suffer him to die in Peace. During the time she was
I speaking,

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speaking, *David's* Tears flowed as fast as hers ; his Words could find no Utterance, and he stood motionless as a Statue. The Landlady replied immediately in a surly Tone, "*Brother!*—Yes, it was very likely indeed, that any one would be so concerned for *only a Brother* : and she believed, if she was to tell her *Butcher* and *Baker*, she would pay them, if ever she should be worth the Money, she must go *without Bread* or *Meat* ; she could not think how Folks imagined she could live, unless she was paid *her own*."

DAVID now could hold no longer, but cried out, "Can any thing in a human Shape persecute Creatures in the Misery this young Man and Woman are? What do they owe you? I will pay you immediately, if you will let them be quiet." As soon as the Woman heard she was to have her Money, she turned her furious Look and Tone into the mildest she was capable of; made a low Court'fy, and said, "she was sure no one could think her unreasonable in desiring what was *her Due*, she asked no more ; and if the Gentleman would promise to pay for it, she would fetch them any thing they wanted. For her part, she was as willing

“willing to be *obliging* as another.” In saying this, she left the Room.

THE young Woman stared for the space of a Minute on *David*, with a Wildness which quite frightened him; at last she got up, threw herself at his Feet, and said, “She was sure he was some
“Angel, who had put on a human Form,
“to deliver her from the only Distress
“capable of affecting her in that manner;
“which was her Brother’s Illness, and
“her being totally void of a Capacity to
“help him.”

DAVID, who was very much surprized at her Air and Manner, had no time then for Reflections, but only asked her, what he should get to refresh them, and begged her to think of nothing at present, but how to recruit her’s and her Brother’s Spirits. She returned this Goodness with a Look that expressed more Thankfulness than all the pompous Words of laboured Eloquence could have done; “she would
“not waste a Moment, before her Bro-
“ther was taken care of; and there-
“fore desired her Benefactor would get
“a Glas of Wine, and a Biscuit for him:
“for I am sure, says she, it is a great
VOL. I. M “many

“ many Hours since the poor Creature
“ has had any thing.”

DAVID, with his Heart ready to burst, and his Eyes overflowing, ran down stairs, and made the Landlady (who was now as solicitous to oblige, as she was before to be rude) send immediately for what they desired; and when he had got it, ran up stairs with the utmost Joy. The young Woman took no Thought for herself, but used all her Endeavours to make her Brother get something down, to revive him: it was with great difficulty he could swallow; for his Weakness was so great, he could hardly move. He had not yet spoke; but at last, by the help of the refreshment he had taken, he got Strength enough to say, “ I hope,
“ Sir, I shall live to acknowledge your
“ Goodness, though I am now utterly
“ ly unable to do it.” He then turned to his Sister, and begged her for God’s sake to drink something herself; for he was certain she must want it. He had not Strength enough to go on, but looked sometimes at her, and expressed his Amazement at the unexpected Relief they had found. Sometimes he looked on *David* with an Air of Softness and
Gratitude,

Gratitude, in which our Hero's Sensibility read as much as in any thing he could have said. The poor young Woman, who had a long time stifled her own Sorrows, lest she should add to her Brother's, found now such a struggle of Variety of Passions, labouring in her Mind at once; the Tenderneſs ſhe had for her Brother, the Joy which ſuddenly ruſhed on her, to ſee him a little relieved, and the Gratitude ſhe felt for her generous Benefactor, that it quite overcame her: ſhe was unable to ſpeak, or to refrain any longer from burſting into a Flood of Tears, which was the only means ſhe had left to expreſs her Thoughts.

DAVID, who had more of what *Shakeſpear* calls the *Milk of Human Kind*, than any other among all the Children of Men, perceived by her manner of Behaviour all that muſt paſs in her Mind, and was much leſs able to comfort her, than what is generally called a *good humoured* Man would have been: for his Senſations were too ſtrong, to leave him the free Uſe of his Reaſon, and he ſtood ſome time without knowing what to do. At laſt, he recollected himſelf enough to beg her to dry her Eyes; ſaying, it would be

the utmost Injury to her Brother, to continue in those Agonies which seeing her in that Condition must unavoidably cause. That Thought immediately rouzed her, and suddenly stopt her gushing Tears. As soon as she grew a little calm, *David's* Senses began to return to him ; and he asked her, if she thought her Brother would be able to bear a Chair, to carry him to some place where he might get what was decent, and be taken care of. He had indeed a Chamber below stairs, where every thing was clean, tho' in a very plain way, which he should be welcome to have ; but he supposed they would be willing to move from a place in which they had met with such Treatment ; besides, there was not room enough for them all ; and he would not leave them, till he saw them recovered from the Condition they were now in. On which, she replied, “ that, indeed, “ that last Consideration weighed greatly “ with her ; but as to the Treatment they “ had met with, she had learned from “ sad Experience in the World, that “ good or bad Usage was to be had, just “ according to the Situation any Person “ appeared in, and that most People “ weighed the respect they paid others “ very exactly in a Scale against the Mo-
 “ ney

Chap. 9. of DAVID SIMPLE. 245

“ney they thought them worth, taking
“great care not to let the one exceed the
“other.” The Brother, who found himself revived, said, “he was sure he could
“bear being carried wherever *he* pleased;
“and that nothing could make him suffer so much, as the being separated
“from *him*.” On which, *David* presently went out, got a good Lodging for them and himself, returned, and paid the Landlady his and their Bills, (the whole of what she had been so clamorous about, amounting only to the Sum of two Guineas.) He could not help reflecting with pleasure, that this Woman had been a Loser by her Cruelty and Ill-nature; for he paid her whatever price she asked, and might have stayed with her some time, had it not been for this Accident.

DAVID ordered a couple of Chairs, put the two poor young Creatures into them, and followed them to the Place he had provided for them; where, when they arrived, they were so faint, and worn out, that he ordered them immediately to be carried to their Beds, and they had something warm prepared for them to take. But the mean Appearance they made, caused all the People in the House

to stare with great Astonishment, wondering what they could be ; neither would they shew them to their Beds, or get them any thing ; till *David*, whose Dress, tho' it was but indifferent, was whole and clean, pulled out Money enough to convince them he could pay for any thing they had : For nothing but the sight of the Money, could have got the better of that *Suspicion* the first sight of them had occasioned. The next thing *David* thought on, was to send for a Physician, to endeavour to restore these miserable Wretches to Health. When the Doctor came, and had seen his Patients, he told *David* in a great many Words, too learned for me either to understand or remember, that from the Perturbation of Mind the young Woman had suffered, she was in great danger of a Fever ; and that the Man was so excessively weak, it would be some time before he could be restored : But he would immediately order something for them to sleep, and was in hopes of setting them up again.

DAVID took care of every thing for them ; and as soon as they had taken the Doctor's Prescription, left them with proper People to attend them, and retired in-
to

to his own Chamber. His Head was filled with the Thoughts of what he had seen that Day; nor could he imagine what these two young People could be: he was certain, by their Manner and Behaviour, they could not have been bred in very low Life; and if they had, he thought it still a stronger proof of their Sense, that they could so much get the better of the want of Education, as to be able, notwithstanding that Disadvantage, and the Disguise of their Dress, to show, in every Word and Gesture, a Delicacy which could not be surpassed by the best-bred Persons in the World.

DAVID got up very early the next Morning to inquire for them; he heard they were both fast asleep, and had been so all Night. This News gave him the greatest Pleasure imaginable; he sent out and bought them decent Clothes, to put on when they got up: And as soon as he heard the young Man was awake, he went into his Room, and was surprized to find such an Amendment. The moment the sick Man saw him, he said, " Sir, your
 " Goodness has worked a Miracle on me,
 " for it is so long since I have lain in
 " a Place fit for a Human Creature,
 " that I have seemed in Heaven to-night.

“ I have had no Distemper on me for
 “ some time, but a Weakness occasioned
 “ by a Fever, and the want of Necessa-
 “ ries had brought me to the Condition
 “ you found me in : I am still faint and
 “ low, but don’t in the least doubt soon
 “ to get the better of it. I hear my poor
 “ Sister is not yet awake ; no wonder,
 “ the good Creature has sat up with me
 “ a great many Nights, and has had no
 “ Sustenance but a bit of dry Bread :
 “ Nature must be worn out in her, but
 “ I hope, with the Blessing of God, this
 “ Sleep will refresh her.”

DAVID then told him, if he was able
 to rise that Day, he had prepared some
 Clothes fit for him to put on, and like-
 wise for his Sister ; which he had already
 sent by the Maid, to be in readiness for
 her against she waked. What this poor
 Creature, whose Heart was naturally ten-
 der and grateful, felt at seeing himself
 loaded with Benefits from a Stranger, I
 leave to the Imagination of every Reader,
 who can have any Sense of Obligations ;
 and those who have none, I am sure must
 think enough of Trifles, to imagine he
 must be pleased, after being some time in
 Rags, to have whole Clothes to put on.

As

As soon as the young Woman opened her Eyes, she got up, and dressed herself in the things *David* had sent her, and then came to see her Brother. She look'd very pale and weak, but very beautiful; her whole Person was exactly formed, and genteel to Admiration; her Rags could not totally disguise her, but now she was clean, she made a most charming Figure. The meeting between the Brother and Sister was with the greatest Joy, to see each other so much better than they had been; and *David's* Pleasure was perfectly equal with either of theirs, in the Thoughts that he was the Cause of it. He took such Care of them, that a little time perfectly recovered them, and they lived together in the most agreeable manner: Sometimes they would say, as they had not a Farthing in the World, they were so much ashamed to be such a Burthen to him, they could not bear it. *David* desired them to be easy, for he could not spend his Money more agreeably to himself than in supplying People who had the Appearance of so much Merit.—— Indeed it was true; for there was such an open Simplicity in their Manner, and such a Goodness of Heart appeared in their

Love to each other, as would have made any one less credulous than Mr. *Simple* have a good Opinion of them ; and they had both such a Strength of Understanding, as made them the most delightful Companions in the World.

DAVID longed to know their Story, and yet was afraid to ask it, lest by that means he should discover something in their Conduct which would lessen his Esteem for them ; besides, he was afraid they might not care to tell it, and it would look like thinking he had a right to know what he pleased, because they were obliged to him ; a Thought, which he would have utterly detested himself for, could it once have entered into his Head. He began to feel for *Camilla*, (for so we shall call the young Woman for the future) something more soft than Friendship, and more persuasive than common Compassion : for although *Cynthia* appeared to be a Person perfectly deserving of his Esteem, which was what he had a long time sought for, and he really very much admired her ; yet there was something which more nearly touched his Heart in this young Woman, and immediately caused him to lose all Regret on the account of the other's

other's refusing him ; and as he was not at all suspicious in his Nature, he never entertained any Notion of what the Landlady hinted at, as if her Companion was not her Brother. For as he was capable of the strongest Affection, without the mixture of any Appetite with it, he did not doubt but others might be so too, though it is a thing some *few People* in the World seem to have no Notion of. He lived in a continual Fear, lest she might not turn out as he wished her : He as yet saw nothing but what he approved ; but as he had been so often deceived, he was afraid of providing for himself those Sorrows he had already felt by too forward a Credulity.

HOWEVER, one Evening as *David* and *Camilla* were sitting together, *Valentine*, (for that was the Brother's Name) being walked out for the Air, he resolved to ask her to let him into her History ; which he did with the greatest Caution and Respect, lest she should be offended at his Request. She told him, " she should
 " already have related it to him, but that
 " there was nothing entertaining in it ; on
 " the contrary, she feared from the Expe-
 " rience she had had of his Good-nature,

“ it might raise very uneasy Sensations in
“ him ; but as he desired it, she should
“ think it unpardonable in her not to
“ comply: only whenever her Brother
“ came in, she must leave off, not being
“ willing to remind him of some Scenes,
“ which she used her utmost Art to make
“ him forget.” *David* told her, “ he
“ would not for the World have her do
“ any thing to give either herself, or
“ Brother a Moment’s Pain.” She then
proceeded to relate what will be seen in
the following Chapter.

**CHAP.**

C H A P. X.

The History of CAMILLA.

THE Task I have undertaken, Sir, cannot be performed without Interruptions from the Remembrance of past Sorrows; but I make no question, you will be so good as to pardon my Weaknesses. Nay, from what I have observed of your Disposition, I believe you will sympathize with me in my Grievs. I am the Daughter of Mr.—— a Man very well known in the World from many extraordinary Actions he has performed; his Reputation for Sense, and Courage, are equal.

I SPENT my Infancy from the time I can remember, very different from what most Children do; it being the usual Method of most of the wise Parents I have ever seen, to use their Little-ones in such a manner, as if they were laying Plots to procure their hearty Aversion to the End of their Lives; but my Father
used

used to say, that as he lived in a Country where *Christianity* was professed, there was no danger his Posterity would ever be *Slaves*. He therefore would never use them to the Thoughts of Whips and Rods; nor on any account have them terrified into an Action by servile Fears. Indeed he often added, that we did not scruple buying and selling *Slaves* in our Colonies; but then we took care not to convert them to our Faith, for it was not lawful to make Slaves of Christians. My Mother was a very good-natured Woman, and shewed her Judgment, in always submitting to my Father; so that my Brother and I passed our Childhood in all the Happiness that state is capable of enjoying; and the only Punishment we ever had for any Fault, was that of being sent from our Parents sight, which made us more afraid to offend than any thing else could possibly have done: for we soon became so fond of our kind Indulgers, that our chief Pleasure was to prattle round them, and see them delighted with our little childish Remarks. When we asked any Questions, we were never bid to be silent, nor called impertinent, but informed and instructed in every thing we were desirous to know. This Encouragement

ment heightened our Curiosity, and we were in a manner led into a Knowledge beyond our Years. We loved each other with a perfect Fondness ; there was no Partiality shewn to either of us ; nor were we ever told, if we did not do right, the other should be loved best, in order to teach us to *envy*, and consequently to *bate* each other.

WHEN *Valentine* was Nine, and I was Eight Years old, he was sent to a publick School. It was with great difficulty these fond Parents were induced to part with him ; but they thought it was for his Good, and had no Notion of indulging themselves at his Expence. Their Grief at this Separation was somewhat recompensed by the Sorrow we both expressed at parting, as they thought it a Proof of that Love for one another, which they had made it their Study to cultivate, and which they hoped would be useful to us throughout our Lives. I was too young to consider any other Good than the present Pleasure, and was for some time inconsolable ; but my Father and Mother's Goodness, who endeavoured all they could to comfort me, and told me they had only sent *Valentine* away for his own Profit, that he might
be

be the happier Man, at last intirely pacified me : We heard from him once a Week, and I then lived in a Situation, I think, the most desirable in the World ; I am sure I have often esteemed it so since, and wished to live it over again. This Life continued till I was twelve Years old, when all my Tranquillity was interrupted by a fatal Accident, which has never been out of my Thoughts twenty-four Hours since it happened, and which I can never mention without the most piercing Grief.

ONE Morning, as my Mother and I were walking in the Fields, (as was our Custom an Hour before Breakfast,) a Thorn ran into her Foot, which put her into the most violent Pain ; infomuch, that she was unable to stir. As we were alone, I knew not what to do to help her : I saw her turn as pale as Death, and look ready to faint away ; this threw me into intolerable Agonies, and I fell a screaming so loud, that I was heard by some labouring Men, who were at plough in a Ground not far from the Place where we were. They immediately came to our Assistance : I desired them to take one of their Horses, and contrive if they could to carry my Mother home ; we were not

above a quarter of a Mile distant, so that one of the Men made a shift, as she was a little Woman, to carry her before him. It would be in vain to attempt to describe what my Father, (who loved her very affectionately,) felt at this sight.

WE rubbed her Foot with some Spirits, and in a little time she seemed to be easy, and went about the House only a little limping, without any great Complaint, for four Days; at the end of which she began to be very uneasy. We presently looked at her Foot, the Point of the Thorn was just visible; all around it was very much swelled, and in the middle was a great black Spot: We neither of us had Skill enough to pull out the Thorn, and our Hands trembled at the very approaching her.

WE therefore dispatched a Messenger with the utmost speed to fetch a Surgeon: when he arrived, and had pulled out the Thorn; I, who observed his Looks, saw he shook his head, and seemed to fear some terrible Consequence. My Mother, who had a Resolution not to be staggered by any Event, begged of him to let her know the worst of his Thoughts,

Thoughts, for she saw he apprehended something very bad. The Surgeon said, indeed, he had great reason to fear, that nothing but the immediate Loss of her Foot could save her Life. At first she said, she had much rather die; but on my Father's Persuasions, (in whose power it was to bring her to any thing) she consented: but the Operation threw her into Agonies, which caused so high a Fever, as could not be got the better of by all the means that were used. She kept her Senses to the last: my Father and I never left her, but sat by her Bed-side as long as she had any Signs of Life. As she knew our Sufferings, and that losing her was as much as we were able to bear, she avoided saying any thing tender, lest she should add to our Sorrows; but in her Looks we read what any one, who had less Consideration, and yet had a Mind capable of feeling, would have said. We saw her struggling with herself to keep down, and prevent the Utterance of what was always uppermost in her Thoughts, her Tenderness for her Husband and Children. Only one day, when I was left alone with her, she went so far as to say, "*Camilla*, make it the business of your Life to obey and please your Father: if
" you

“ you should live to see him an old Man,
 “ return him that Care by which he has
 “ supported your Infancy : cherish your
 “ Brother’s Love. Don’t remember me
 “ to afflict yourself ; but only follow my
 “ Example in your Behaviour to the Man
 “ who has been so good to us both.” She
 saw me ready to burst, and said no more ;
 but soon after expired, without ever shew-
 ing the least Emotion of Fear : she look’d
 forward with Pleasure instead of Terror,
 and died with the same Resolution of
 Mind, which had conducted her through
 all the various Scenes of this Life.

THUS I lost the best of Mothers, and
 from her Loss I date all the Miseries of
 my Life. My Father at first was like one
 distracted ; but as soon as the first Sallies
 of his Grief were abated, his good Sense
 came in to his assistance ; and, by the help
 of the many Arguments his Understand-
 ing suggested to him, he calmed his Mind,
 and in a great measure overcame his Af-
 fliction ; tho’, like *Macduff*, *he could not*
but remember such Things were, and were
most dear to him : yet he bore the common
 Fate of Mortals, of losing what they are
 fond of, with true Greatness of Mind,
 of which no Man had a larger share. I
 was

was too young to be so philosophical; the only Motive I had to command myself, was the fear of hurting my Father: and that indeed was sufficient to make me do, or suffer any thing; for I loved him with inexpressible Fondness, and did not want the Addition of my Mother's last Command to make me obey him, for it was all the Pleasure I had in Life. He had no occasion to tell me what to do, for I watched his very Looks, by them found out his Will, and in the performing it employed all my Time. I resolved never to marry, for it was impossible for me to change my Situation for a happier; for, in my Opinion, to live with any one we love, and find that every Action we do is pleasing to them, is the Height of human Felicity.

My Brother continued to write to us, and I had the Satisfaction of hearing he was in health; and found, by all his Letters, his Affections were as strong to me as when we were in our first Infancy. He would sometimes send for Money a little faster than my Fathre thought convenient; upon which he would say to me, "This Brother of yours is so extravagant, I don't know how I shall do to support him." But

I have since thought this was only done to try me, and to hear me plead for him, which I always did with all the little Rhetorick I was mistress of; so that by this means he contrived to give me the utmost Pleasure, in letting me believe I procured my Brother what he wanted. So indulgent was this Parent, that he used every Art he was master of, to give me all the pleasing Sensations that arise from Generosity and Delicacy.

As I constantly lived with him, and was solicitous in my Attendance on him, tho' he was very impartial, yet I believe I was something his Favourite; but I always made use of that Favour rather for my Brother's Advantage than my own. I have heard of Women living at home with their Fathers, and using all kind of Art to make them hate their Brothers, in hopes by that means to better their own Fortunes; but to me it is surprising, for I could never have forgiven myself, if I could once have reflected that I had ever done my dear *Valentine* any Injury, or omitted any Opportunity of serving him. I lived on in this State, in which I had nothing to wish but my Mother
alive

alive again, nor any thing to regret but her Loss.

I HAD a Companion in a young Woman in the Neighbourhood, who had more Wit and Vivacity than any Woman I ever knew; and we spent our Time, when my Father was in his Study, or gone abroad, in little innocent Amusements, fuitable to Girls of our Age. In this manner did I live till I was Eighteen: Happy had it been for me, if my Life had ended there, I should then have escaped all those Scenes of Misery I have since suffered. I lost my Companion; for her Father dying, and leaving her in bad Circumstances, she went to live with a Lady of Fashion, who took a great fancy to her. This was some Uneasiness to me; however, I could not be miserable, while my Father was happy and fond of me.

BUT on a sudden I observed he turned quite thoughtful and melancholy: I grew very uneasy at it, and took the liberty one day to ask him the Cause of it; and begged, if I did any thing he disliked, he would let me know it, that I might take care to avoid it for the future. He
looked

looked at me with an Air of the greatest
Tenderneſs, and ſaid, “ My dear Child,
“ how can you ſuſpect you ever offend
“ me? No! I am more and more pleaſed
“ every day with your Conduct, which is
“ much above what I ever ſaw in a Per-
“ ſon of your Years; nay, indeed, a Man
“ of the greateſt Underſtanding would
“ not be aſhamed of your Converſation.”

I cannot deny but this Acknowledgment
from one of his Judgment, had ſome
effect on my Vanity; but I can ſincerely
ſay, that the greateſt Joy I had in it, was
owing to the Thoughts of my Father’s
Partiality, and Fondneſs for me. “ No,
“ on the contrary, continued he, my
“ Love of you is the Cauſe of my Un-
“ eaſineſs; for I have let a Paſſion un-
“ awares ſteal on me, which I am afraid
“ will be to your diſadvantage; for altho’
“ with OEconomy I am able to ſupport
“ you and your Brother in a tolerable
“ manner, yet my Fortune is not large;
“ and if I ſhould marry, and have an In-
“ crease of Family, it might injure you.”

“ THE Object of this Paſſion is *Livia*,
“ the Daughter of —: her Fortune muſt
“ be ſmall; for almoſt all the Eſtate in
“ the Family is gone to the eldeſt Son;
“ who,

“ who, as he is married, and has Children
 “ of his own, cannot be expected to do
 “ much for her.” I was overcome with
 this Goodness, and desired him not to
 have any Consideration for me ; and as for
 my Brother, I was certain that his Sentiments
 would concur with mine, in giving
 up every thing to his Father’s Happiness,
 and I would by all means have him
 gratify his Passion ; for I should hate myself,
 if I thought I was a Burthen, rather
 than a Pleasure to him. That if we lived
 on less, we might be contented ; which it
 was impossible for us to be, whilst he was
 uneasy. During the time I was speaking,
 I saw the most lively Joy in his Eyes : he
 was happy that I approved his Passion, and
 I, to find what I said was agreeable to him.

THE next day he sent for me into his
 Chamber, and told me he had been
 thinking on what I said concerning the
 Reasonableness of his indulging himself
 with respect to *Livia* ; he really *believed*
I was in the right ; that he had turned it
 in his Mind every way, and found, that as
 he could not be easy without her, it would
 be more for all our Advantages that he
 should have her. In short, he presently
 proved, that the *most prudent, and wisest*
thing

thing he could do, was to *marry her*. It was no hard matter for him to make me believe whatever he pleased; for I had so implicit a Faith in what he said, that his bare Assertion was to me the strongest Proof. But I have often since reflected, that it is a great Misfortune that a good Understanding, when it is accompanied with a very strong Imagination, only makes People judge right, where their own Inclinations are not concerned; but when once any violent Passion interposes, it serves only to hide and gloss over all bad Consequences that attend the Gratification of that Passion, and removes Difficulties out of the way, to a Man's own Destruction; which a Person of less Sense, and a cooler Fancy, would never be able to accomplish: for Strength of either Mind or Body, is useful only as it is employed. But I ask pardon, Sir,—for troubling you with my Remarks, and will proceed in my Story, if you are not tired with it.

“ DAVID begged her not to be
 “ afraid of that; for, by what he had
 “ heard already, he was but the more cu-
 “ rious to know what remained; and, as
 “ to her Remarks, he desired her always
 VOL. I. N “ to

“ to tell him what she felt and thought
 “ on every Incident which befel her ; for
 “ nothing could give him greater Plea-
 “ sure, as he was sure, by what she had
 “ hitherto expressed, her Sentiments
 “ were just on all occasions.” *Camilla*
 thanked him for the favourable Construc-
 tion he put on her Thoughts, and re-
 sumed her Story.

My Father then told me, he would
 send for my Brother home, for he had
 now finished his Studies, and he knew
 nothing would be so agreeable to us both
 as to be together : His Melancholy was
 dispersed, the Struggle was over ; he had
 fixed it in his Mind, it was right for him
 to do what his Inclination prompted him
 to, and I was perfectly satisfied with it ;
 for a Cloud on his Countenance was the
 greatest Pain I could suffer : and now I saw
 him chearful, I thought that Chearfulness
 could not be bought too dear. *Valentine*
 came home immediately on my Father’s
 Summons, and his Sentiments all per-
 fectly agreed with mine.

My Father introduced me to *Livia*,
 and we soon became intimate ; she ap-
 peared very fond of me, and I found her
 so.

so agreeable, that I was inclined to like her as much as my Father could wish. He asked me my Opinion of her; I told him, I thought she seemed a reasonable Woman, and I did not doubt but she would make a very good Wife, and be contented to live in the manner his Circumstances could afford. He replied, with a sort of Extasy, that if he had wanted any Proofs of my Judgment, what I had now said of *Livia* could not fail of *convincing him* of it. Altho' he was near Fifty, yet was his Person very agreeable, and he had such an eternal Fund of Entertainment in his Conversation, that all the World coveted his Company. It was no wonder *Livia* was pleased with his Addresses, and withstood them no longer than was just necessary to keep up the Ceremonies appointed by Custom for Women in such Cases, when they were married to the entire Satisfaction of all Parties. *Valentine* paid his Mother the Respect due to her; and, for my part, I really liked *Livia* from Inclination: but, as I found she was the Object which gave the greatest Pleasure to the Man in the World I most loved, and to whom I owed all the Duty I was capable of paying, I thought I could

could never do enough to oblige her. My Father grew every day fonder and fonder of his Wife ; and now, Sir, I believe you will think the Happiness of this little Family could admit of no Addition.

I THOUGHT so at that time, and if the Opinion I then had of *Livia* could have been supported with any Colour of Reason, I should never have known a Wish beyond what I then enjoyed. But perhaps, Sir, if you have not had a great deal of Experience in the World, you may be yet to learn, that there are Women, who, in order to prove their *Love* to *their Husbands*, take an utter *Aversion* to *every thing* that *belongs to them*. This was my unhappy Case: the Woman whom I thought my best Friend, from the moment she became my Mother, turned my Enemy, *only* because my Father was fond of me ; for I am certain she never had any other Reason for a Conduct like her's.

THE first step she took, was to assume an Air of forced Civility, instead of that Familiarity, which, from the Beginning of our short Acquaintance, we had been
used

used to treat each other with, and throw me at a distance; for, as *Shakespeare* says, "When hot Love grows cold, it useth an enforced Ceremony." But in this she for some time lost her Aim; for I knew so little of the World, I took it for a Mark, that she was resolved, as she was got into a Character in Life so much hated, (and, I am afraid, too often deservedly) as that of a Mother-in-Law, that the World should say she paid me rather more, than less Respect than before. I was not so well pleased with this Behaviour as I should have been, had she continued her former Manner; but however, as I mistook the Motive of her Actions, I did not esteem her the less.

BUT this did not last long, she went on from one thing to another; till it was impossible, with all my Partiality for her, to be deceived any longer; and I shall never be ashamed to own, it was with great difficulty my Eyes were opened enough to see her in the true Light: for I shall always esteem young People, who are apt to be suspicious, especially of their Friends, to be incapable of possessing any real Goodness. They may, if they please, boast their Judgment; but I cannot

help imputing it more to the Badness of their Hearts, than to the Goodness of their Heads.

DAVID, who never suspected any body without the strongest Proofs, very much applauded *Camilla's* Judgment, and concurred with her in her Sentiments. And she proceeded as follows.

You will be amazed, Sir, to find all the Guile and Cunning this Woman made use of, to make me and *Valentine* hated by my Father. I suppose it must be, because she thought her Interest incompatible with ours; and that the only way to spend all her Husband's Fortune, was to make him believe we were his greatest Enemies. She was quite different from the Opinion I had formed of her; for, instead of being contented with what my Father could afford, she never thought any thing extravagant enough; buying Jewels, going to publick Places, every thing that was to spend the most Money, was her chief Delight; and the only Article in which she ever thought of saving, was in denying my Brother and me what we wanted. But this she never did openly; for whatever was proposed for us, she

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she always came very gladly into. The Method she took to disappoint us, was, that by her Conduct, Money soon became very scarce; for she spent all he could procure, and by that means we were obliged to go without it. She would condescend to such mean Arts, that had I not been witness of it, I could not have believed any human Creature could have been capable of them. I have known her several times bring in Bills to my Father, where she has set down things for us we never had, in order to make him think she had a great Affection for us, that he might esteem her the more; and when to our Generosity she owed the Success of her Schemes, for we neither of us would discover any thing to make my Father uneasy, she then exulted in the Thoughts of her great Sense, and applauded her own Understanding: for she was wise enough to mistake a low Cunning, and such little mean Arts, as People who had any Understanding could never submit to, for Sense. I soon found out that all the Softness and Tenderness I once imagined her possessed of, was entirely owing to her Person; the Symmetry and Proportion of which gave so pleasing an Air to every thing she said or did, that nothing but

O

Envy

Envy could have prevented her Beholders from being prejudiced in her favour.

I OFTEN thought, could she have beheld herself in the Goddess of Justice's Mirror of Truth, as it is described in that beautiful Vision in the *Tatler*, she would have loathed and detested, as much as now she admired herself. Her fine Chestnut-brown Hair, which flowed in natural Ringlets round her Neck, was it to have represented the Strings that held her Heart, must have become as harsh and unpliant as the stiffest Cord: Her large blue Eyes, which now seemed to speak the Softness of a Soul replete with Goodness, had they on a sudden, by the irresistible Power of a Goddess's Command, been forced to confess the Truth, would have lost all their Amiability, and have looked askew an hundred ways at once, to denote the many little Plots she was forming to do mischief: Her Skin would have become black and hard, as an Emblem of her Mind; her Limbs distorted, and her Nails would have been changed into crooked Talons, which, however, should have had power to shrink in such a manner, as that the Unwary might come near enough (without Suspicion) to be
got

got into her Clutches. Not a Metamorphosis in all *Ovid* could be more surprising than her's would have been, was this Mirror of Truth to have been held to her. I have really shuddered with Horror at the Image my own Fancy has presented me ; and notwithstanding all her Cruelty to me, nay, what is much more, to my dear *Valentine*, my Indignation never could rise so high, as to wish her the Punishment to see herself in this Glass, unless it could have been a Means of her Amendment.

SHE never abused us ; but found means to work on our Tempers in such a manner, as in my Father's sight always to make us appear in the wrong. She knew I could not bear the least Slight from any one I loved without distraction, and therefore she would contrive, by all the Methods she could invent, to touch me in that tender Point, and to raise me into such a Height of Passion, as might make me behave in a manner to be condemned by my Father. *Valentine* seldom said any thing, he bore all with Patience ; but unless he too would have joined in tormenting me, he was never to be forgiven ; besides, ours was looked on by her as a common Interest, and he was as

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great an Offence to her Sight as I was. When she had worked me up to a Pitch, in which perhaps I might drop an unguarded Word, she was then in her Kingdom; for as she was cool, and all on her side was Design, she knew how to play her part. She was always *sorry* I was *so passionate*: As to her, she *loved me* so well, she could put up with any thing from me; but as she was my *Father's Wife*, she thought it a *Disrespect* to him, and she could *not bear* the Thoughts of any one's treating him otherwise than they ought to do, and as she was sure *he deserved* from every body. On such Occasions he sat all the while wondering and admiring at her Goodness, and blessing himself at the great Love he saw she had for him. I was astonished at her giving things that Turn, and she triumphed in finding how easily she could make every thing go to her Wish; but still she had not done, she must do Acts of Superelevation, and interceded with my Father not to be angry with me, for she really believed it was only Passion. He had not yet got so much the better of the long Affection he had for me, but he was glad to find any Excuse to be reconciled to me.

THUS

THUS she flattered him, by engaging him to follow his own Inclinations, at the same time that she displayed her own Goodness. By Means like these, she increased his Esteem for her, while she deserved his Detestation: Then she would come into the best Humour in the world, and appear as if there was nothing more in it than an accidental Dispute, which was all over; she would be so like her former Self, that for several times she deceived me, and I began to imagine I fancied things, which had no Existence but in my own Brains. Thus barbarously she often took pains to pull me off the Rack, only that she might have the pleasure when I was almost healed and well, to torture me again: for to behave inconsistently, sometimes well, and sometimes ill, is the greatest Curse, a Mind disposed to Love, can ever meet with.

My Brother and I looked with Horror on the Consequences of the expensive sort of Life *Livia* was drawing her Husband into; and yet as we saw it impossible to prevent it, we commanded ourselves enough to be silent. But this was not sufficient; the Dread we had of what
out

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our Father would be brought to, broke out in our Countenances in spite of any Resolutions we could form to the contrary. This she insinuated was owing to Selfishness in us, and a Fear lest we should have the less for what she spent. As my Father could not resist giving way to her Desires in every respect, and observed our Disapprobation of it in our Faces, he began to look upon us as Bars to his Pleasures, and the Reproachers of his Actions; which by degrees lessened his Affections for us in such a manner, that he esteemed us rather as his Enemies than his Children.

THUS my Father's House, which used to be my *Asylum* from all Cares, and the Comfort of my Life, was converted by this Woman's Management into my greatest Torment; and my Condition was as miserable, as a Person's would be, who had lost the best Friend he had in the World, and was to be haunted hourly by his Ghost; and that not in the pleasing Form in which he used to place his Delight, but with a Face made grim with Death, and furious with some Perturbation of Spirit. Such now was my Father become to me, instead of that kind,
that

that fond, that partial Approver of every thing I said or did ; my every Action was displeasing to him, and he never saw me, but his Looks expressed that Anger and Dislike, which pierced me to the Soul ; whatever thing I wanted, was too much for me : And though I denied myself every thing but the bare Necessaries of Life, yet all the Expence of the Family was imputed to me and my Brother. All the Servants in the House finding it their Interest to be as disobliging as they could to us, took care not to be too officious in serving us. Such mercenary Wretches were below my Notice ; but yet their Behaviour was shocking to me, as it was one of the Proofs of the Decay of my Father's Love.

DAVID here interrupted her, by saying, " That she was very much in the
 " right, for there was nothing so strong
 " a Proof, that the Master of a House
 " has no regard for us, as the constant
 " Misbehaviour of his Servants towards
 " us ; he had had the melancholy Experience of it : But he thought she was
 " mistaken, in thinking any Station could
 " make People below her Notice ; for as
 " to him, there was nothing in Life he
 " attended

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“ attended to more earnestly than the
“ Behaviour of those Men, whose want
“ of Education shewed more openly, and
“ with less disguise, what their Natures
“ were : indeed hitherto his Observations
“ of that kind had given him but a me-
“ lancholy Prospect.” His Eyes ex-
pressed so much Sorrow as he spoke this,
and his Mind appeared so affected, that
Camilla gave him a thousand Thanks for
the good-natured part he took in her Af-
flictions, and said, she would now take
Leave of him, it being late, and to-mor-
row would resume her Story.

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